

# LOST AND FOUND PETS

## LOST PETS

- **Flyers** posted all around your area (cats can cover a 2-mile radius easily) are very effective. Include a picture and your phone number. Keep the text short. Make everything large so drivers can see it. Use gallon-sized sealable plastic bags to keep the flyer dry in the rain. **Please remove flyers once your pet is found.**
- **Notify** your neighbors. Give them a flyer and ask them to keep an eye out for your pet.
- **Give a flyer to your mail and parcel carriers** and ask them to keep a look-out for you.
- **Put something outside your door that smells like you** (e.g., pajamas you've slept in, a T-shirt you have worn). Animals' sense of smell is strong and they are likely to pick up your scent to lead them home. For cats, put their litter box outside.
- **Immediately call the [Athens County Dog Shelter](#) to report a missing dog.** Visit the shelter often to make sure your pet hasn't been dropped there. Hang a flyer at the shelter. Remember to leave your phone number so they can call you if a dog of your description is brought in. The Athens County Dog Shelter is located on State Route 13 outside of Chauncey. Phone: (740) 593-5415
- **Call area veterinarians.** Give them your phone number and tell them to call you if someone brings in your pet as an injured stray or a pet they plan to re-home.
- **For cats: Go out walking and calling once it gets quiet (ideally, between 10:00 p.m. and 2 a.m.).** Take a few steps, call, stand still and listen for the cat to answer. Repeat these steps while walking in a spiraled pattern away from your house.
- **Post the information online.** Visit the [Athens County Lost & Found Pets](#) page on Facebook.
- **Post the information on Craig's List / Lost and Found:** Visit the [Athens, Ohio community lost/found page on Craigslist](#). Account setup is free.
- **Use the Pooch Patrol.** Call WXTQ/WATH Pooch Patrol at (740) 593-6651 to give a description of your lost dog or cat. The Pooch Patrol airs on WATH-AM 970 and on WXTQ-FM 105.5 throughout the day. All listings are online at [www.wxtq.com/poochpatrol/](http://www.wxtq.com/poochpatrol/).
- **Notify the media.** Both *The Athens Messenger* and *The Athens News* offer FREE lost and found classified ads. To place an ad in *The Athens Messenger*, call (740) 592-6612. To place an ad in *The Athens News*, e-mail [classified@athensnews.com](mailto:classified@athensnews.com) or call (740) 594-8219.

## FOUND PETS

If you find a pet, here is what you can do to help it get home.

- **Post flyers** around your area (cats can cover a 2-mile radius easily). Include a picture and your phone number. Keep the text short. Make everything large so drivers can see it. Use gallon-sized sealable plastic bags to keep the flyer dry in the rain. **Please remove flyers once the pet is home safe.**
- **Ask your neighbors if the pet is theirs.** Many people keep their cats exclusively indoors, so you may be unaware that the cat on your doorstep belongs to your neighbor.
- **Post the information online.** Visit the ACHS [Athens County Lost & Found Pets](#) page on Facebook.
- **Post the information on Craig's List / Lost and Found:** Visit the [Athens, Ohio community lost/found page on Craigslist](#). Account setup is free.
- **Notify the Pooch Patrol.** Call WXTQ/WATH Pooch Patrol at (740) 593-6651 to give a description of the found dog or cat. The Pooch Patrol airs on WATH-AM 970 and on WXTQ-FM 105.5 throughout the day. All listings are online at [www.wxtq.com/poochpatrol/](http://www.wxtq.com/poochpatrol/).

- **Notify the media.**
- Both *The Athens Messenger* and *The Athens News* offer FREE lost and found classified ads. To place an ad in *The Athens Messenger*, call (740) 592-6612. To place an ad in *The Athens News*, e-mail [classified@athensnews.com](mailto:classified@athensnews.com) or call (740) 594-8219.
- **Be careful with information.** Don't offer information in the flyer or to callers about collar/lack of collar/color of collar; whether the pet has been spayed or neutered; and distinguishing markings. Ask callers to provide that information to you to ensure that the pet is theirs. ("Bunchers" often respond to found-pet ads and pose as owners, then sell the animals for laboratory research.)

## CURRENT LOST & FOUND LISTINGS FOR ATHENS COUNTY CAN BE FOUND ON -

- The Athens Messenger
- The Athens News
- Athens County Humane Society Lost & Found Facebook Page
- Pooch Patrol Archive
- Athens, Ohio, Craigslist