

Lost Pet Prevention

Summer 2022



About Ewing Township Animal Control

Officers work under the auspices of the Ewing Township Health Department. There are 2 full time officers who respond to over 600 complaints a year. Officers work to provide for public safety by preventing wildlife and nuisance animals from endangering the community.

Animal Control

Emergencies

Phone:

609-883-2900 X7175

After hours call

609-882-1313

Officers are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including weekends and holidays.



Township of Ewing, New Jersey

Bert Steinmann, Mayor

Did you know that it is estimated that a pet gets lost every two seconds in the United States? ¹ Summertime is a particularly dangerous time for your pets as we, and they, tend to spend a lot more time outdoors. Fireworks and strong summer thunderstorms may cause your pet to panic and run off. Young children, home for the summer, can leave the backyard gate open. Vacations may be memorable for you, but not so for your pet. Traveling with your pet can be disorienting for them and they may easily wander away. For those pets left behind, the stress of missing you may cause them to seek and find a way to flee. We urge you to take special care during these and at all times to keep your beloved pet safe.

Basic Precautions

- 1) Identification
 - License your pet and attach the tags to his/her collar. June is the month for license renewals in Ewing Township. Don't forget to get this done promptly.
 - Microchip your pet. Microchip Resources: Your veterinarian and local pet chain retailers.
- 2) Keep cats indoors and protect wildlife as well as your pet.
- 3) Your dog's enclosure should be escape-proof. This requires a high fence with no way to dig under it or wiggle through a tight opening.
- 4) Spay/neuter your pet. They are less likely to roam if they are altered. Our local animal shelter, Easel, offers assistance for this service for low-income households (www.easelnj.org/services/).
- 5) Be careful when entering/exiting the car with your pet. They may easily become lost if they should bolt during transit. Always keep your cat in

his carrier and your dog leashed.

- 6) Train your pet as well as family members. Kids and their friends can accidentally drop the leash or leave the door open. Invest in training to ensure that your dog will return on command.
- 7) Changes in your normal routines merit special attention. Think of the different people wandering in and out during construction and whether doors will be shut promptly. Pet sitters and dog walkers also present a change in routine and a prime time for escape, especially if your pet is stressed.
- 8) As noted earlier, many pets are stressed by loud noises such as fireworks and thunderstorms. Be alert that they don't escape through an open door during these times.
- 9) Keep a photo of your pet on your phone so you can show it to people quickly if your pet does get away.



What To Do If Your Pet Gets Away

- 1) Notify the neighbors immediately.
- 2) Share on social media. Include a recent photo of your pet and your contact info, as well as last seen location including your, town, county, and state.
- 3) Contact your local animal shelter ASAP to inform them that your pet is missing. Give as many details about your missing pet as possible. In Ewing, it's EASEL Animal Rescue League. Phone 609-883-0540.
- 4) Post Flyers & Signs. Be sure to include critical info, photo, contact info, location last seen. Engage family, friends, and neighbors to help. Put one at the dog park.
- 5) Alert local veterinarians. Lost pets may frequently be brought to them.
- 6) Put food out where your pet was last seen. A piece of your scented clothing may also attract your pet.
- 7) Provide Multiple Contact Sources: Provide your home/work/cell numbers and emails. List family and friends as alternate contacts so you don't chance missing a notification. Indicate if can be called any time day or night.

**Don't forget to notify everyone and thank them for their efforts
when your pet has been located.**