

WHAT TO DO IF YOU LOSE A PET

1. ACT FAST Shelters are required to keep lost pets only four days before adopting, selling or euthanizing them if they have no ID, and just seven days if they have ID.
2. Call the Humane Society of Kent County at 453-8900 to file a lost report. Also call the Kent County Animal Shelter at 336-3210. It is best to visit both shelters, especially if your pet is a mix breed and thus difficult to describe.
3. Put a "Lost" ad in the newspaper.
4. Distribute posters that include a description of your pet, where he or she was lost, your phone number, a photo of the animal, and possibly a reward.
5. Talk to as many people when you distribute your posters. Ask if they have seen your pet. Let them know that you are concerned. If you've lost a cat, ask neighbors to check their basements, garages and cars.
6. If you live near the county line, visit the shelter or animal control facility in the neighboring county as well.
7. Check the "Lost & Found" section of the area newspapers every day.
8. Search for your pet especially in the early morning hours (3-5 a.m.) when it is quiet. Your pet may be able to hear you calling and you may be able to hear your pet.
9. Set up a temporary comfort station (provide a bed, food, and water) near your home to encourage your pet to stay in the area if he or she returns while you are gone.
10. Check your neighborhood veterinary clinics, in case your injured pet was taken to one of them.
11. Check your local police department in case your pet has been reported to authorities.
12. In the event your pet has been killed, check those agencies nearest you which pick up dead animals:

Grand Rapids Refuse Dept.: **456-3232** (all city streets)

Kent County Road Commission: **242-6900** (all main roads and expressways)

Lowell: **897-8541** or **897-5929**

Walker: **453-6311**

Kentwood: **698-6580**

Cedar Springs: **696-1330**

Wyoming: **530-7260**

East Grand Rapids: **949-2110** ext.205

Sparta: **887-7331**

Grandville: **538-1990**

SO THERE IS NO "NEXT TIME" KEEP YOUR COMPANION ANIMAL UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIMES, OBEY AREA LEASH LAWS, KEEP CURRENT ID ON THE ANIMAL AT ALL TIMES, HAVE YOUR PETS STERILIZED TO CONTROL ANIMAL OVERPOPULATION.