



River City VETERINARY HOSPITAL

According to statistics, one in three pets become lost at some point in their lives, and yours could very well be one of them. That's more than enough reason to microchip your furry companion! But, how do microchips work? Here are the basics on pet microchipping, how it works, and why it's so important.

What Is a Microchip?

A microchip contains a unique ID number, specific to your pet. It is about the size of a grain of rice and is implanted underneath the skin between your dog or cat's shoulder blades. Implantation is quick and virtually painless, like a normal pet vaccine. Your pet's microchip contains a unique number that you then enroll with AKC Reunite so we can contact you and your alternate contacts when your pet is found.



It is important to clarify a microchip is NOT a GPS or tracking device because it has no power source! Instead, a microchip contains a small antenna that can only be read by a microchip scanner used by veterinarians, shelters, and animal control. When the scanner passes over the microchip, it reads the microchip ID number. It is not exactly the same, but similar to scanning a barcoded item at the grocery store.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR PET'S MICROCHIP IS SCANNED?

After your pet's microchip is scanned and detected, AKC Reunite is contacted and we jump into action! Our 24/7/365 Pet Recovery Specialists will call, email, and text you and the alternate contacts on your pet's enrollment record to help reunite you and your pet as quickly as possible.

AKC Reunite enrolls all brands of microchips and provides lifetime protection day and night, with no annual fees and no record update fees for as long as you own your pet!

YOUR PET NEEDS TWO FORMS OF ID - A MICROCHIP AND A COLLAR TAG

Along with enrolling your pet's microchip with AKC Reunite, you also want to make sure your pet is always wearing a collar tag. This way, a good Samaritan can help your lost pet without having to track down a microchip scanner. If your pet has no visible identification, animal control needs to be called or the Good Samaritan needs to take the pet to a veterinarian to be scanned for its microchip.

If your pet's tags are removed, its microchip enrolled with AKC Reunite can play a key role in helping prove ownership. You will also want to have a photo of you and your pet together and its vet records in the event bad actors get involved and your ownership is contested.

Call us today to schedule!