

SWVH May Newsletter

Microchips - the best way to permanently identify your pet!

Southwest Veterinary Hospital uses HomeAgain Microchips.

The microchips are about the size of a grain of rice and you cannot see the microchip after it is implanted in your pet. The procedure is simple and similar to administering a vaccine. The microchip becomes preloaded in a sterile applicator and is injected under the skin between the shoulder blades. Extensive testing and long-term studies have shown the HomeAgain microchip is safe for pets.



1-888-466-3242

A microchip with a unique identification code is implanted under the skin between the shoulders of a dog or cat. The dog or cat is enrolled in the HomeAgain Recovery Service. HomeAgain maintains a national database and is available 24-7-365. When a lost pet is found, it can be scanned at an animal shelter or a veterinary hospital. The animal's identification number is called into HomeAgain, and the pet owner is notified immediately.

Currently, more than 2.5 million pets microchipped with HomeAgain are enrolled in the Home Again Recovery Service. When you call HomeAgain to report your lost pet a recovery specialist takes down vital information and issues an immediate lost pet alert to local vets, shelters and PetRescuers. Today, pet recoveries as a result of the HomeAgain Recovery Service have grown to an average of 7,000 per month in the U.S.

Microchip Facts

30-60% of lost pets in shelters are euthanized because they cannot be properly identified and returned to their owner. Only about 14% of dogs and 4% of cats who end up in shelters are returned to their rightful owners.

Less than 25% of all animals that enter shelters are adopted by new owners.

About 2 million pets that are reported missing each year may be victims of theft.

Collar tags are a great way to identify lost pets and reunite them with owners, but they can easily come off or be removed.

Tattoos are difficult to be removed from an animal, but they are still not 100% reliable. Tattoos can be altered, fade, or blur and are not always easy to read.

Reading a microchip is far easier than trying to read the tattoo of a frightened stray animal.

Microchipping is permanent, completely unalterable, and does not change or harm the appearance of the animal in any way. The procedure is safe, inexpensive, fast and virtually painless for the animal.

There are about 50,000 microchip scanners currently in use by shelters, veterinarians, and municipal organizations in the U.S.



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As summer approaches, people's thoughts turn to warm weather and vacation time. For many, vacation plans include travel with their pets!

Traveling with your pet Top Ten Tips:

1. Use an available method of confinement for the pet (in the car and at the destination)
2. Always have pet identification (e.g. tags, microchip)
3. Proof of rabies and other vaccinations
4. Contact information for SWVH
5. Research applicable rules for your travel plans (e.g. airline rules, health certificates, quarantine, etc.)
6. Make reservations or obtain a list of accommodations that will accept pets before starting out
7. Plan and allot extra time for the pet rest stops and potty breaks
8. Bring the pet's usual food & treats along
9. Take along food and water bowls, familiar toys and bedding, and extra leashes
10. Plan for pet care at the destination during times the owner will be unable to bring the pet along (eg restaurants or amusement parks)

As always, we are here to help! Please call (775) 825-SWVH, email (contact@swvhreno.com) or stop by to have your microchip and travel questions answered by our caring staff and veterinarians.

If there are suggestions for future newsletters – please let us know!

Sincerely,

The doctors and support staff of SWVH

SWVH Promotions:

Microchips are the best way to permanently identify your dog or cat. On **Wednesdays** SWVH will offer \$10 off Microchip implantation and registration.

(\$40 instead of \$50)

SWVH is happy to announce that **Tuesdays** are now **Senior Discount Day**

10% Discount for services and products on Tuesday

****Seniors are over 62 years old****