

Lost Vegas

One of the best things you can do for your pet is to protect them through identification in case they are lost. A microchip is about the size of a grain of rice and contains an identification code that can be read by a microchip scanner. By having your pet microchipped AND registering the chip with your address and phone number, you can increase the chance of your lost family



pet being returned to you. Each year millions of pet are separated from their owners for various reasons. By licensing and microchipping your pet, the chances of an Animal Control Officer returning your pet directly to you are drastically increased. Your pet's license and microchip are their ticket home! If a County of Santa Clara Animal Control Officer locates a lost pet and finds that it has owner identification (either a license or microchip with updated information), they will make every attempt to bring the family pet directly to you as soon as possible! Here is just one example:

On May 3, 2012, the County of Santa Clara Animal Care and Control Division responded to a call regarding a lost Chihuahua found running loose in San Jose. At first glance, the dog appeared not to have owner identification, as it was not wearing a license tag. However, when the small dog was scanned for a microchip, identification appeared on the scan screen. Animal Control Officer Robert Ribardo contacted the microchip company and was notified that the dog belonged to Jeremy Sanchez of Union City. Now, with owner identification, Officer Ribardo was able to contact Mr. Sanchez and report to him that his family dog had been found. Mr. Sanchez was extremely happy to hear the news that someone found his lost dog, Vegas. Vegas had been missing for a month when he went through an open gate at his home in Union City. Mr. Sanchez was very appreciative to Animal Control and the microchip company for everything they had done to reunite him with Vegas. Jeremy understood the importance of microchipping and was so grateful he had taken the time to microchip Vegas. Without the chip, Vegas and his family may never have been reunited - the microchip was Vegas' ticket home! If your pet is lost, please visit www.sccountypets.org for tips to help you locate your lost pet. If you would like to help the pets that come to the Shelter without identification, consider a [donation to help animals](#) in the County of Santa Clara Animal Shelter.