

Spring is the Perfect Time to Microchip Your Pet

Spring means getting outdoors again and doing more activities with our pets. Doors and windows are open, and your cat or dog has more opportunity to dart outside not wearing his collar or any identification. Or, even worse, you are traveling or hiking with your pet and he or she gets loose and disappears. Many pets do not wear collars or tags for various reasons, and these forms of identification can often be lost. But a microchip provides a permanent identification that cannot fall off or be removed.

So, what exactly is a microchip? Microchips used for identifying pets are radiofrequency IDs or RFID chips. They are small, glass coated, non-reactive chips about the size and shape of a piece of long grain rice implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades. If scanned with a device to detect the radio frequency, they show a number that is linked to a database with your address and information. So, if your pet is lost, and the microchip number obtained, the database can be searched and your information located so your pet can be returned to you. There are several different companies that produce microchips, but universal chip scanners should pick up the signal from any brand, and nearly all veterinary offices and animal shelters scan stray pets to check for microchips. A microchip can also be used as a permanent form of dog license in York County.

A microchip is a great way of permanently identifying your dog or cat should the unthinkable happen. Many pets have been reunited with their owners because of a microchip. Ask your veterinarian about having a microchip placed in your dog or cat if he or she does not have this valuable form of identification.

Submitted by: Dr. Sabrina Walters