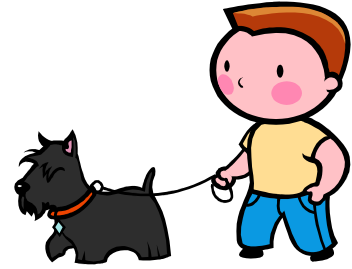




MICROCHIP FAQ'S



Most people believe that it could never happen to them, but the facts do not lie. Every two seconds a family pet is lost and most never make it back because their owners could not locate them. Shelters are already overcrowded so lost pets can only be kept for a short period of time. More pets die because their owners are unable to locate them than from all infectious diseases combined.

**Today you can easily protect your pet with a microchip!
This procedure is inexpensive and can be done at anytime.**

How popular is microchipping?

- More than 2,765,526 pets are microchipped and the numbers are increasing each day! Microchips are responsible for reuniting more than 258,032 lost pets with their owners. (statistics from homeagainid.com and avidmicrochip.com)
- STATISTICS from AKC-CAR:

STATE	ENROLLMENTS	RECOVERIES	PERCENTS
Alabama	8,652	665	7.7%
Georgia	64,604	6,509	10.1%
Florida	166,911	17,384	10.4%
Colorado	195,449	41,674	21.3%

How much does a microchip cost?

- At NVH, the cost of the AVID microchip is approximately \$50. Microchips are very economical and are certainly less than the cost of trying to locate a lost pet. Also, dogs in PA can be eligible for a permanent dog licenses with a one-time fee! (see back of page)

How long does a microchip last?

- The microchip has no power supply, battery, or moving parts. It is designed with an operating life of over 25 years and is guaranteed for the life of the animal. Once injected, the microchip is anchored in place as a thin layer of connective tissue forms around it. The chip requires no care. It does not pass through or out of the body.

How old should my pet be to receive a microchip?

- Animals of any age can receive a microchip. Puppies and kittens are generally microchipped during their initial vaccine series or at the time of being spayed or neutered. We suggest waiting to send the registration information to the microchip company and county treasurer until after the pet has been spayed or neutered to ensure proper documentation.

Is microchipping painful for my pet?

- Microchips are so tiny (a little larger than a grain of rice) that they fit through a hypodermic needle and, just like a vaccination, is injected under the skin between the shoulder blades of your pet where it remains safely for life.
- Some pets may feel mild discomfort when the chip is inserted (just like with vaccines), but will not feel the chip after it is inserted.

What places carry microchip scanners, and how will my pet be FOUND?

Animal shelters, animal control officers and dog wardens have been educated and informed about microchip identification and how it works. Shelters use industry-wide, cross-compatible scanners that read all chips operation at a certain frequency. Most veterinary hospitals carry scanners as well. Once a microchip is located in an animal, the appropriate steps are taken. If the animal is registered with AVID's Recovery System, the shelter will be given the owner's name. If the animal is not registered, they will be given the name of the veterinarian or the breeder who injected the microchip.

Can animals experience a reaction to the microchip?

- Extensive and long-term studies have shown the microchip is safe for pets. There is virtually no chance of the body developing an allergy or trying to reject the microchip after being properly inserted.

Can microchips "move around" or "fall out" from under my pet's skin?

- A microchip may travel under the skin of animals with little body fat and end up in another location. As a result, pets are scanned all over their body to ensure that the microchip is located. Most microchips remain inside the pet by attaching to a thin layer of connective tissue that forms around it.



Lifetime Dog License Opportunity:

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has recently approved a lifetime dog license for dogs that have microchips implanted as a form of permanent identification. This is VERY economical compared to registering your dog annually:

Cost of ANNUAL dog license:

- Intact male or female (\$8.00)
- Neutered male or spayed female (\$6.00)

Cost of LIFETIME dog license (after microchip):

- Intact male or female (\$51.00)
- Neutered male or spayed female (\$31.00)

Imagine the SAVINGS:

- Dog with annual licensing = \$60-\$80 or more over 10+years!
- Dog with lifetime licensing = only \$31.00 over 1-+years, in addition to the comfort of knowing your dog can be safely reunited with you!!!!

Here's how you can register your dog for a permanent dog license:

1. Microchip your dog (approximately \$50 at NVH).
2. Obtain the appropriate forms (you can get these from NVH also!)
 - Microchip registration form (to register your pet with the microchip company)
 - LIFETIME dog license application (send to County Treasurer's office with the one-time fee)
 - Permanent identification verification form (must be signed by veterinarian or person who scanned chip and sent to County Treasurer's office with lifetime license form)