

Return to Owner Policy

It is the policy of the SPCA to reunite lost (stray) animals with owners in all possible cases. Animals may become lost for any number of reasons and the shelter's objective is to return these wandering pets to their rightful homes.

To that end, any animal that is brought into the shelter as a "stray" is housed in the shelter for a week. An owner may claim the pet any time during this "stray-hold" period. Owners must have valid photo ID and proof of ownership to claim an animal. There is a suggested donation of \$10 plus \$5/day to reclaim a lost pet. In rare cases a return-to-owner fee may be mandatory.

Under PA State law, we are required to provide owner information on any stray dog brought to the shelter to the local police and to the Office of Dog Law Enforcement, if requested. Owners may be subject to fines.

We will generally take applications during the week-long stray period. This will help us to quickly find a new home for the pet in the event that the owner is not located.