Found a stray dog: Shelter dispatch decision tree

Is the dog sick or injured?

- Is the dog laying down unable to get up?
- Is the dog limping or not placing weight on a limb?
- Did you witness the dog hit by car or other injury?

Ask finder if able to bring to veterinary clinic or dispatch officer for pick-up

Yes

Is the dog scared or scary?

- Does the dog run away on approach?
- Is the dog observed in and out of traffic?
- Has the dog growled, snapped or attempted to bite?
- Has the dog bitten anyone?

Ask finder to try to find owner and provide guidance

No

Dispatch officer to location

Yes

- Take animal to nearest veterinary clinic or pet store to scan for a microchip
- Walk/drive your neighborhood, talk to people & look for open gates/doors where the dog may have come from
- Put up <u>found signs</u> around the neighborhood
- Post on neighborhood FB/Nextdoor/Craigslist & look at lost dog posting on these sites as well
- Ask to email, text or upload photo to post on shelter website and file found report at <shelter website>

Yes

Ask finder if willing to foster until owner found (including sick/injured dogs after care)?

No

Provide finder with resources for pet supplies & capture information need to post on website for adoption

Ask finder to call again and provide direction to bring to shelter (see Shelter Decision flowchart)

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- Has the dog bitten anyone?

Ask finder if able to bring to veterinary clinic or dispatch officer for pick-up

Yes

Ask finder to try to find owner and provide guidance

Instruct finder to leave dog in place if not in danger

Dispatch officer to location

Yes

- Take animal to nearest veterinary clinic or pet store to scan for a microchip
- Walk/drive your neighborhood, talk to people & look for open gates/doors where the dog may have come from
- Put up <u>found signs</u> around the neighborhood
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- Ask to email, text or upload photo to post on shelter website and file found report at <shelter website>

Notify finder that dog is likely on their way home and if the situation changes, they can return call for update

Yes

Ask finder if willing to foster until owner found (including sick/injured dogs after care)?

No

Provide finder with resources for pet supplies & capture information need to post on website for adoption

Ask finder to call again and provide direction to bring to shelter (see Shelter Decision flowchart)

Found a stray dog: ACOs in the field

No

Is the dog sick or injured?

Yes (unable to stand, limping, seen hit-by-car)

Take to emergency vet clinic or back to the shelter

Is the dog dangerous?

Try to find the owner OR leave the dog in place if not in danger

Call dispatch or bring to shelter

Yes

- The dog is likely from the neighborhood and on their way home
- Attempt to find the owner:
 - ✓ Look for license or ID tag
 - √ Scan for microchip
 - Call dispatch to verify microchip info
 - ✓ Walk/drive your neighborhood, talk to people & look for open gates/doors where the dog may have come from
 - ✓ Post on neighborhood FB/Nextdoor/Craigslist & look through lost pet listings
 - ✓ Call the shelter to file a found report and compare to lost reports filed

Was owner found?

Yes

Return dog to owner

Take dog to

Take dog to the shelter
Put up <u>found signs</u> around the neighborhood
before you leave neighborhood

Found a stray dog: Shelter decisions

Stray dogs coming in through field services



- Reduce/subsidize/waive redemption fees
- Remove/waive S/N requirement
- Get the word out about how easy/friendly it is to reclaim your dog
- Make it easy/friendly to reclaim your dog
- Offer at no cost a collar and identification (tag and microchip)
- Offer to deliver pet ACO, staff, volunteer
- Offer time to comply with rabies vaccine requirement if no vet on staff/available before releasing animal
- Warning instead of citation for first time offense

- Make available for viewing during stray hold with open selection
- Allow outcome as soon as the stray hold ends
- Reduce/subsidize/waive adoption fees
- Implement Adopters Welcome
- Get the word out about how easy/friendly it is to adopt a dog
- Make it easy/friendly to adopt a dog

Found a stray dog: Public messaging

Is the dog sick or injured?

Is the dog scared or scary?

Yes (unable to stand, limping, seen hit-by-car)

Take to emergency vet clinic or call X shelter xxx-xxxx

Try to find the owner OR leave the dog in place if not in danger

No

- The dog is likely from the neighborhood and on their way home
- If you would like to attempt to find the owner:
 - ✓ Take to veterinary clinic/pet store to scan for microchip
 - ✓ Walk/drive your neighborhood, talk to people & look for open gates/doors where the dog may have come from
 - ✓ Put up <u>found signs</u> around the neighborhood
 - ✓ Post on neighborhood FB/Nextdoor/Craigslist & look through lost pet listings
 - ✓ Contact the shelter to file a found report and to post on their website and compare to lost reports

If owner is not found, can you foster until owner found?

Yes

Contact the shelter to see if they have pet supplies & ensure dog is posted on their website

Call X shelter xxx-xxx-xxxx

No

Yes (dog runs away on approach, or growls, snaps, attempts to bite)

Call X shelter xxx-xxx-xxxx