

Shelters/rescues: Share these ideas with new adopters/fosters BEFORE the dog leaves your facility

Dogs at High Risk of Becoming Lost

- Newly adopted dogs
- Foster dogs
- Rescue dogs during transport
- Dogs in an unfamiliar place
- Dogs that have recently moved to a new home
- Shy, fearful, or unsocialized dogs



THE TRIP HOME

- **Properly fitted collar** with ID tag with your name, phone numbers, and address.
- **Microchipped** and registered to YOU.
- **No stops or potty breaks!**
- **Dog securely confined** in crate or harnessed securely to seat belt with a restraint.
- **Two leashes:** One to collar and second to harness.
- **NO RETRACTABLE LEASH!**
- **Firm grip on leash!** Try closing one leash in car door so the handle is outside, allowing you to grab leash handle before opening car door.

THE FIRST MONTH

- **Check the fence.** Can he get under, over, or through it?
- **Lock gate with a padlock.**
- **Don't leave him in the yard unattended.** Until you know what to expect from each other, no outings or trips away from home.
- **Double-leash** him if leaving the yard using a martingale collar and harness.
- **NO RETRACTABLE LEASH — EVER!** If you drop the leash it'll drag noisily behind him. He'll panic and run to escape. What's chasing me?!

IF YOUR DOG GETS LOST

- **Do not call or chase!** Sit down. Don't make eye contact. Talk quietly, and gently toss tasty/smelly treats.
- **Immediately call** the shelter, rescue, foster home, breeder or former owner to enlist their help. **Don't delay out of embarrassment** or fear of repercussions. Do what's best for your dog!
- **Fill out a lost dog form** through our partner: PetFBI.org. This free service allows you to download flyers, and enters him into a map-based, searchable database. Our volunteers will be notified so we can help.
- **Switch gears from "catching" to "luring."**



Go to
LostDogsFlorida.org
for more tips