

What You Should Know About Pet I.D. Tags, Licensing and Collars

A Visible Identification Tag is a Must . . .

Microchipping is a great form of permanent identification should your pet's collar and tags get removed. Most vets and shelters will be able to track an owner through a microchip, but a microchip is not a replacement for a tag that can be immediately seen and read by all. Many people will stop to help a pet wearing a tag because they know the animal has a family that they can contact right away while many of those same people will not stop for a pet without visible I.D. and a known owner. If your pet does end up at the shelter, having identification in any form gives it an extra 7 days at the shelter.



"If We'd Been Wearing I.D. Tags, We'd Be Home Right Now"



Benefits of Pet Licensing in Sacramento County . . .

- A license is your lost pet's ticket home. An animal control officer will try to contact you from your pet's license information in an effort to avoid taking your pet to the shelter.
- If the officer is successful at bringing your pet home without it having to go to the shelter, you will be spared the \$40 shelter impound fee and subsequent daily boarding fees.
- Your pet will be held at the shelter for 10 days instead of 3 days if wearing a license tag.
- If your licensed pet is injured, the shelter will attempt to contact your personal vet if possible.
- \$15 is the total cost for an altered animal license, and that includes the visible license tag your pet wears affixed to his/her collar.
- At the sad time your (licensed) pet dies or is in need of final arrangements, the shelter can assist you with free or low cost services.
- Your license fees go toward the direct support of the shelter, which takes in approximately 15,000 animals each year, conducts abuse and neglect investigations, picks up strays, offers low cost spay/neuter programs as well as adoption, foster and rescue programs, etc.

Dog Collars . . .

For strength, dependability & durability, we like to use rolled leather (buckle) collars found at most pet supply stores. We have found that, in general, traditional buckle collars of any kind are much less likely to break or come off than the collars with the plastic quick-release attachments.

The Dangers of Choke Chain Collars . . .

Choke chain (aka slip) collars have resulted in the deaths of a great many dogs. Many dog behavior experts feel there are training tools that are more humane, effective and safer options than choke chains, but the far worse consequence is the large number of dogs that have choked to death when their choke chain collar caught on a fence, a nail or other obstacle, even on another dog while playing. While we do not recommend choke chains in general, their use should absolutely be prohibited in the absence of the direct supervision of an adult. *Note:* We also do not recommend the use of prong (aka pinch) collars.

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