



City of Rochester
Animal Services

Found a Lost Pet?

On any given day, Rochester Animal Services (RAS) has 50-100 cats and dogs onsite. As a managed intake shelter, we accept found pets anytime during our regular business hours.

There are a few ways you can help a lost pet get back to its home without bringing it to the shelter.

Found Dogs:

1. Be Safe

If you are able to, get the dog to a safe and secure area. Be aware of surroundings. Your safety and the safety of others should come first. **DO NOT RUN OR CHASE INTO TRAFFIC.**

2. Check for identification

Check if the dog is wearing a collar and has an ID tag or a license tag. Sometimes people write phone numbers directly on the collar instead of attaching a tag.

3. Knock on doors

Check with your neighbors or other people in the area. They may know the dog and can help you locate its home.

4. Snap photos

Take shots of the dog, street signs, and area where dog was found.

5. File a Found Pet Report

Call 585-428-7274 or submit report electronically at cityofrochester.gov/lostandfoundpets, or visit the shelter during regular business hours.

6. Check for microchip

Take the dog to a local vet's office to scan for a microchip. If the dog has a chip, this may be the fastest and best way to find an owner. RAS can help with research if the chip is not registered.

7. Post on social media

Post photos and location on social media sites like Craigslist, Facebook and Nextdoor.

8. Make and Post Flyers

Hang flyers in heavy traffic areas and public spaces near where the dog was found. Good old fashioned leg work is still the best way to locate an owner.

9. Can you keep and foster the dog?

Take the dog home for safekeeping. Keeping a found pet at home helps keep our population low and prevents the missing pet from being housed in a high-stress environment and exposed to disease. RAS can provide vaccines for found pets if you are willing to take them home with you.

10. If you cannot locate owner and cannot keep...

If you are not able to house the dog safely, you can bring it to the shelter during regular business hours. To make an appointment call 585-428-7274. Our team may also have other options for the pet that don't require coming to the shelter.



Even if a dog is found dirty, injured, or afraid, it does not necessarily mean the dog was abused or dumped. Try to avoid making assumptions or judgements. It is possible that the dog has been missing for several days or even weeks and has been injured or experienced adverse conditions during that time. Ask yourself, if you had lost a pet, what would you want a finder to do?

Found Cats:

If you find healthy, outdoor cats and kittens, whether they are friendly or not, it is likely that someone is caring for them and they are either part of a community of cats that are being managed or they belong to someone who allows their cats to be outside. These are cats that need to remain outside or in their neighborhood. Follow tips for Found Dogs. If you haven't seen the cat outside before, are you able to foster the cat and help with finding its owner? If after 72 hours the cat has not been claimed by the owner, you can rehome the cat. If you are unsure or would like more information about community cats and Trap, Neuter, and Return, please visit cityofrochester.gov/communitycats.

Kittens:

If you found kittens, please visit our What To Do If You Find Kittens webpage for information on how to keep them with mom and out of the shelter.

Sick or Injured Animals:

If you have found a sick or injured pet that needs medical assistance, please bring it to RAS during regular business hours. For after-hours service, call 911.

After Hours:

Animal Emergency Services operates the 24-hours emergency veterinary clinic at 825 White Spruce Blvd and accepts sick or injured strays from Good Samaritans outside of RAS hours. Call 585-424-1277 to let them know if you are bringing in a sick or injured animal that you found.

Found Pet

[Insert Photo]

Today's Date: _____

Finder's Contact Info

Email: _____

Phone (Day & Evening): _____/_____

Pet's species (Cat, Dog, Hamster, etc.): _____

Pet's sex (M/F): _____

Pet's Color(s): _____

Special Markings: _____

Collar Color: _____

Other Identification: _____

Area Found: _____

Date Found: _____

Try Finding Rover, a tool that uses facial recognition to match photos of the found pet with photos that its owner has uploaded to the system.



How It Works

Sign up at

www.findingrover.com/register



Select **Lost** or **Found**



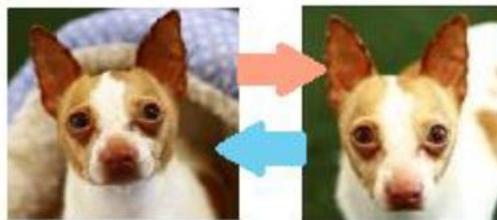
Choose a Photo



Pick a Location

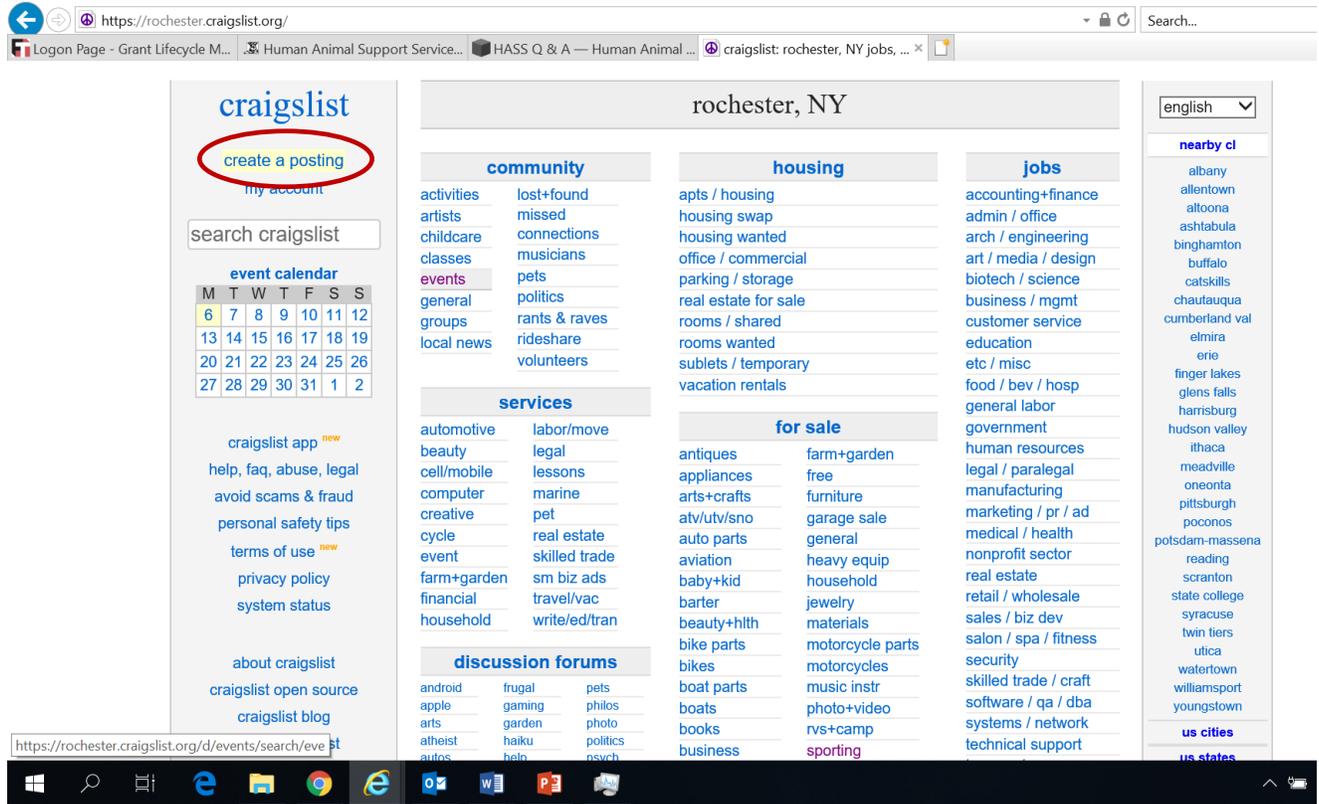


Search



How to Post Found Pet on Craigslist

Go to <http://rochester.craigslist.org>



Select [community] and click continue

please limit each posting to a single area and category, once per 48 hours

what type of posting is this: (see [prohibited](#) list before posting.)

- job offered
- gig offered (I'm hiring for a short-term, small or odd job)
- resume / job wanted

- housing offered
- housing wanted

- for sale by owner
- for sale by dealer
- wanted by owner
- wanted by dealer

- service offered
- community
- event / class

Choose a category: select [pets] and click continue.

https://post.craigslist.org/... HASS Q & A — Human Animal ... rochester, NY | choose categ...

please choose a category: (see [prohibited](#) list before posting.)

- activity partners (please do not post personals on craigslist)
- artists
- childcare
- general community (no politics here please)
- groups
- local news and views (no national or international issues here please)
- lost & found
- missed connections
- musicians
- pets (no animal sales or breeding -- rehoming with small adoption fee is ok -- info on [free to good home](#) ads)**
- politics
- rants & raves
- rideshare
- volunteers

continue



Fill out the following format (Green fields are required). Answer to the best of your ability. An email address is required. You can opt to not have emails sent but options are available to provide your direct phone number and address.

posting title city or neighborhood postal code

description

contact info

email

email privacy options [?]
 CL mail relay (recommended)
 no replies to this email

phone/text
 show my phone number phone calls OK text/sms OK

phone number extension

contact name

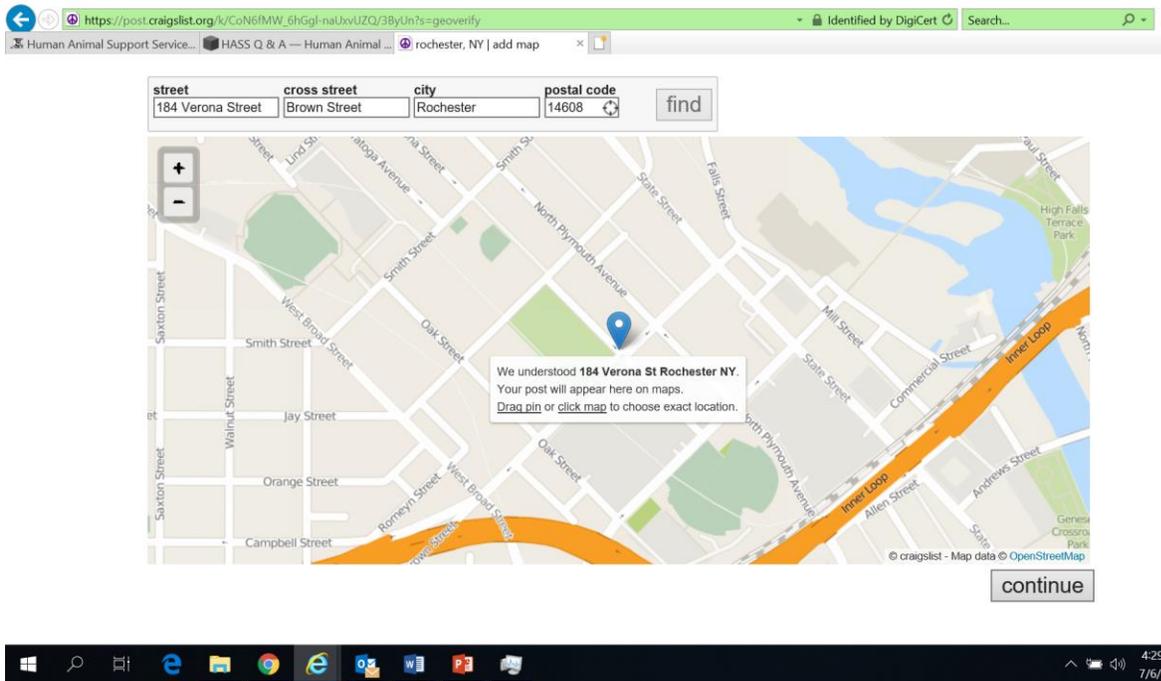
location info
 show my address

street cross street city

ok for others to contact you about other services, products or commercial interests

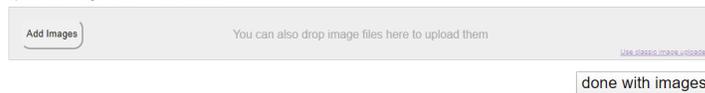
continue

Provide a zip code and press [continue].



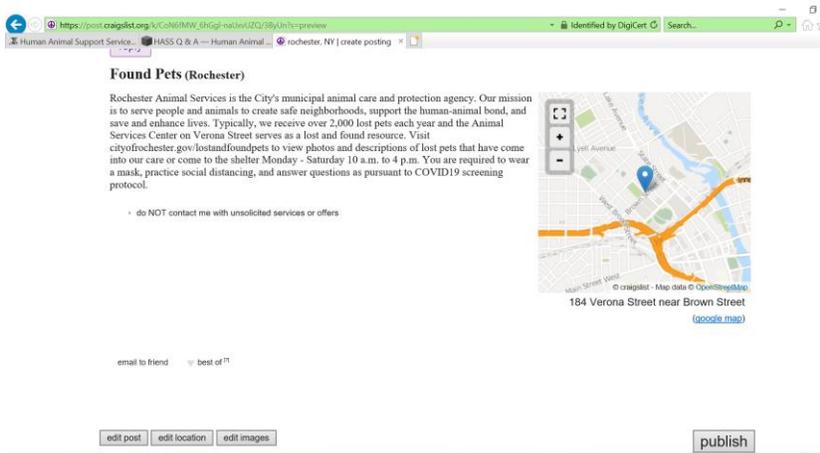
You can add images of the animal you are seeking to rehome. Once completed, select [done with images].

this posting has 0 images, of a maximum 24
upload best image first - it will be featured.



Review your post finalize any information then select [publish]. Once you select [publish] the post will publicly be published on Craigslist.

Note* A craigslist post only last for 45 days.

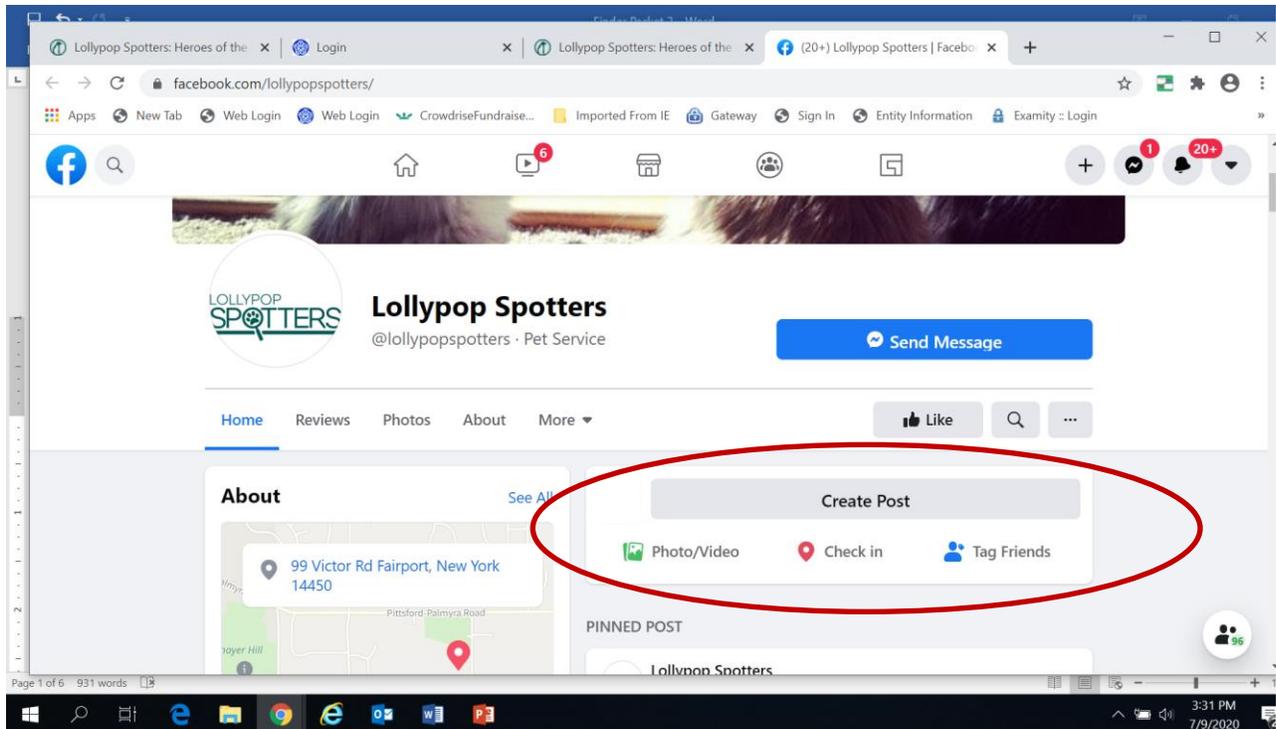


How to Post Found Pet on Facebook

Post on Lollypop Spotters page

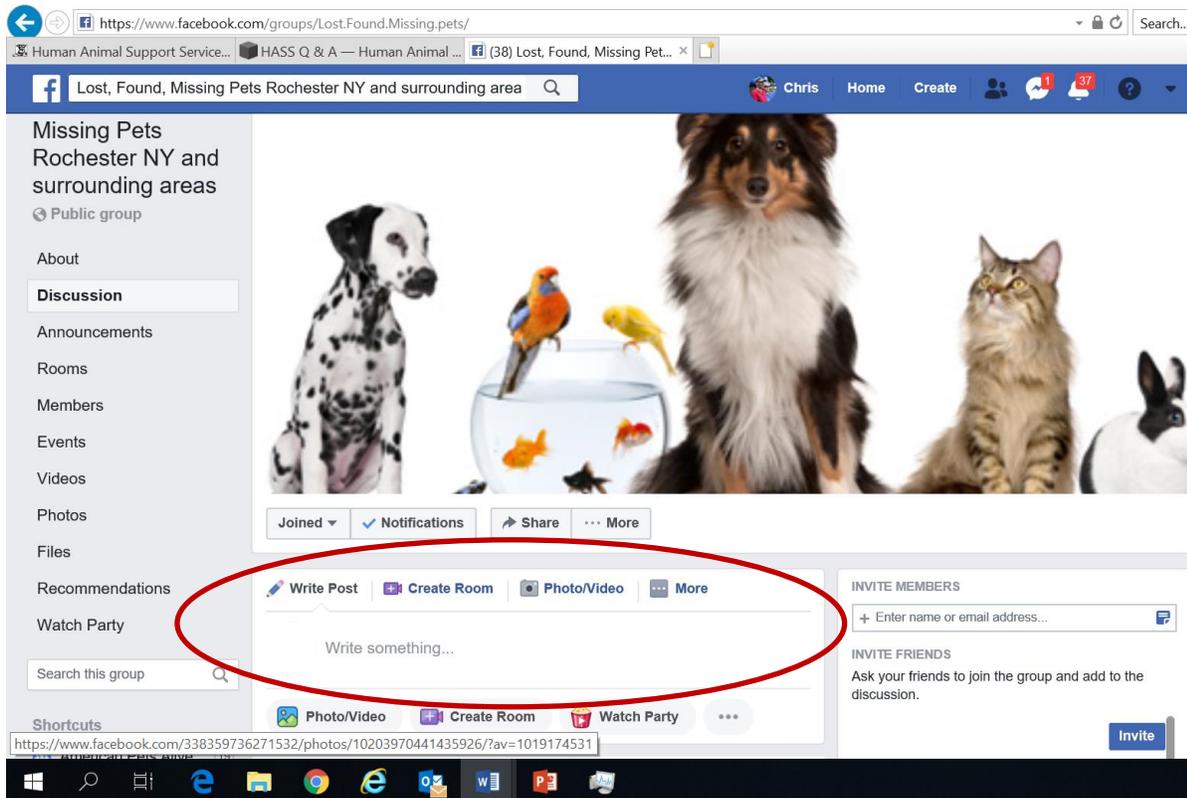
Go to <https://facebook.com/lollypopspotters>

Click [Create Post] and then add a post including the description of the found pet, location found, and your contact information unless you prefer to have communications occur through Facebook and Facebook Messenger. Click [Photo/Video] to add photos or video of the animal. Once the written post is completed and the photos/videos are uploaded, click [Post].



Post on Lost, Found, Missing Pets Rochester NY and surrounding areas page

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lost.Found.Missing.pets/>



The screenshot shows the Facebook interface for the group "Lost, Found, Missing Pets Rochester NY and surrounding areas". The page is public and has a navigation menu on the left with options like "About", "Discussion", "Announcements", "Rooms", "Members", "Events", "Videos", "Photos", "Files", "Recommendations", and "Watch Party". The main content area features a large image of various animals: a Dalmatian, a parrot, a goldfish, a dog, a cat, and a rabbit. Below the image are buttons for "Joined", "Notifications", "Share", and "More". A red circle highlights the "Write Post" button and the text input area below it, which contains the placeholder text "Write something...". To the right of the input area are buttons for "Create Room", "Photo/Video", and "More". Below the input area are buttons for "Photo/Video", "Create Room", and "Watch Party". On the right side of the page, there are sections for "INVITE MEMBERS" and "INVITE FRIENDS". The URL in the address bar is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lost.Found.Missing.pets/>.

Write a post including the description of the found pet and location found. Include your contact information unless you prefer to have communications occur through Facebook and Facebook Messenger. Click Photo/Video to add photos or video of the animal. Once the written post is completed and the photos/videos are uploaded, click Post.