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Scanning for Microchips

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Guideline Statement

All local agencies should make every effort to locate the owner of a lost animal by using the technology available.

Basis for Guideline

Each year thousands of dogs and cats are impounded at area animal shelters without tags. With the introduction of an effective universal scanner, microchips can be detected more readily. Owners can be notified and reclaim their animals in a more timely manner, in-turn reducing sheltering costs.

Guideline Recommendation

NACA does not encourage the substitution of the microchip for a rabies or license tag. However, tags do get lost and the microchip is an excellent backup for identification. If a microchip is detected, ownership can be determined, the owner notified and the animal returned in a very short time. Owners need to be reminded that their information must be kept current in order for the system to work.

The foregoing Guideline has been affirmed as duly adopted by the NACA Board of Directors.

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