

Trying to find a home for a stray animal

First of all, thank you for caring. Reaching out to others to try and find help for this animal is the first step in making their life a better one.

The McKamey Animal Center has a contract with the City of Chattanooga to provide animal services. The Humane Educational Society serves Hamilton County. Please review the information below for help in placing a homeless pet.

Have you posted any fliers or contacted the paper or radio to try and find this animal's owner? This would be your first step. Someone could be missing him. Someone may be looking for him and not realize just how far he has traveled. Many pets are microchipped, so you may also want to have him scanned by your vet. This chip number will register back to the owner and the chip company will give you contact information for this person. There are many services on the internet where you can also post lost and found ads. Here are a few places to start.

<http://www.thepets.net/>

<http://www.pets911.com/services/lostandfound/index.php>

<http://www.thepetrescue.com/States/Ga/gorescue.html>

If you cannot find the owner, you may want to contact some of the local rescue organizations to see if any of them have room to accept him into their program. Because of the huge pet overpopulation problem, Chattanooga shelters and rescues stay full. These groups are made up of volunteers who are trying to save a lot of animals with very scant resources, so offer as big of a donation as possible to help cover food, shelter, and especially medical expenses. Please be patient when waiting for a return call. Serving as a foster home for the animal while the rescue organization searches for a new home is a great option as well. Housing a homeless animal is always an issue. Find local groups by visiting <http://www.petfinder.com> You can search for local shelters by clicking on the "shelter" link, choosing the "List by Distance" option and typing in Chattanooga, TN.

If you cannot find a rescue organization that can help, ask friends, neighbors, co-workers, family, etc. Be patient. It might take a while to find the pet a new home. To learn more about re-homing pets, check out this link:

<http://www.bestfriends.org/nomorehomelesspets/pdf/howtofindhomesforpets.pdf>

Don't forget the importance of spaying or neutering before adopting the animal into a new home. This will not only give you peace of mind that you are not contributing to the pet overpopulation problem, but will make the animal much happier as well. You may want to inquire with your regular veterinarian and ask if he/she will give you a reduced rate since you are only trying to do the right thing for this animal and are not the actual owner. You can also contact the groups below for information regarding their low cost spay/neuter programs.

CARE: <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/TN12.html> (423) 894-4926

CATS: <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/TN157.html> (423) 875-3940

HART: <http://www.help.hart.net/> (423) 877-0738, (423) 624-5302, or (423) 875-3940

WALLY'S FRIENDS (S/N Clinic): <http://www.wallysfriends.com/> (423) 877-9966

I wish you the best of luck with finding a safe home for this animal. With a bit of patience and effort, you should be able to find him a loving home.