

### **Animal Care Trust Celebrates Tag Day With Free Pet ID Tags**

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The Animal Care Trust will join the American Humane Association to support "Make Every Day Tag Day" by offering free pet ID tags throughout throughout this month.

"Make Every Day Tag Day" is a month-long public awareness campaign that unites thousands of shelters, veterinary clinics, animal care and control agencies, and animal welfare organizations from across the country in an effort to help the public understand how important an ID tag or other form of identification is for ensuring lost animals have a voice, it was stated.

"Without an ID tag, a lost pet can sit in a shelter for days," said Donna Deweese, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Animal Care Trust, the entity raising funds to build the Animal Care and Adoption Center. "Meanwhile, that limits the space and resources available to care for other animals. Making sure your animal can be identified – with a tag, microchip, or tattoo – is something all pet owners can do to help their own pets, as well as the homeless animals in our community. We're encouraging people to e-mail their name and address to [acacinfo@aol.com](mailto:acacinfo@aol.com) or visit [www.acacinfo.org](http://www.acacinfo.org) to have a free pet ID tag mailed to them, while supplies last."

An average of 8 to 12 million companion animals end up in shelters across the country each year, and without an ID tag to reunite them with their families, their prospects are grim, as 5 to 9 million of them will need to be euthanized. "Any time a stray animal enters a shelter without an ID tag or other form of identification, the chances are very slim that the pet will ever see its family again," said Marie Belew Wheatley, president and CEO of American Humane.

To combat this problem, the [Animal Care Trust](#) encourages pet

guardians to Make Every Day Tag Day by doing the following:

1. Make sure your pet wears a collar with a current ID tag, rabies, and city license. Include a contact name, address, daytime, and evening phone. Consider providing a phone number for an alternate contact – like a neighbor or family member.
2. Keep your pet's licenses and ID tag current.
3. If a reward is offered for returning the animal, put that information on the tag.
4. When moving or traveling, place a temporary tag on your pet with the phone number of someone who knows how to reach you. Better yet, use a lost pet tag system such as petFinder™. It is absolutely the best Id tag solution we have ever seen! It employs communications technology to allow you to update your contact information in a database as often as you need without ever changing your pet's tag (we were very impressed that the petFINDER was the only ID solution that really worked in helping us to connect to pet owners during our work with the Katrina Pet recovery).
5. Remember that even indoor pets need tags. Many strays in shelters are indoor pets that escaped and got lost.

For more information, contact the Animal Care Trust at [acacinfo@aol.com](mailto:acacinfo@aol.com) or visit [www.acacinfo.org](http://www.acacinfo.org) or the American Humane Association at [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org).

The mission of the Animal Care Trust is to protect animals from neglect, abuse and exploitation; to advocate for their interests and welfare; to reduce the unwanted pet population through an effective spay/neuter program; and to inspire and educate our citizens toward an awareness and compassion for all living beings. The Animal Care Trust was established by Mayor Bob Corker in August 2004 to raise funds to build the Animal Care and Adoption Center.

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