

Amherst Animal Hospital

Modern Medicine. Traditional Values.

Microchip Information

Amherst Animal Hospital is pleased to announce that we are now using The American Kennel Club Reunite (formerly AKC CAR) ID System microchips. The American Kennel Club is a non-profit organization that has been in existence for over 100 years. AKC Reunite has over 3.5 million animals enrolled in their database, including dogs, cats, large animals and exotics, and more than 320,000 lost pets have been recovered by their organization. Each year millions of pets are lost; a microchip provides permanent identification and ensures the best chance to reunite you and your lost pet.

- How do microchips work?

Microchips are very tiny (about the size of a grain of rice) and are implanted under the skin near the shoulder blades using a specialized syringe. Each microchip has a unique identification number, which is linked to your enrollment information in the AKC Reunite database. The microchip number, along with the AKC Reunite 24 hour toll free number, appears on the tag that is included in your enrollment.

- What if my pet gets lost?

Anyone who finds your pet can call the 24-hour hot-line number listed on the pet's tag. If your pet is found and taken to a shelter or veterinary hospital, even without a tag, the staff can identify the microchip number using a microchip scanner. All animal shelters and most veterinary hospitals have these scanners. Once alerted, a recovery coordinator will contact you immediately so that you can get your pet back as quickly as possible.

- How do I enroll my pet?

Enrollment in the AKC Reunite database is simple. Once you complete the enrollment form, our staff will enter the information into the database on-line to avoid delays from postal service or processing. You will receive a confirmation by mail from the AKC Reunite. Included in the enrollment fee is a metal tag bearing the microchip number as well as the AKC Reunite Hot-line number. The AKC will not disclose your personal information to any other agency or corporation.

- How much does a microchip for my pet cost?

Please ask us for the current cost of microchipping. The cost of the microchip includes the insertion of the microchip as well as lifetime enrollment in the program. Unlike many other microchips, there is no annual registration fee. You can update your information at any time, at no additional cost, by contacting the AKC Reunite by phone or on-line.

Amherst Animal Hospital recommends that you have your pet implanted with a microchip. The best time for placing a microchip is when you have your pet spayed or neutered, or during any anesthetic procedure. We are able to implant them at other times as well, by appointment. Please feel free to ask any of our staff members if you have questions about our microchip program or the AKC Reunite ID System.

Our microchip program is provided as part of an ongoing effort to improve our services and support the bond between you and your pet.