



LOSTDOG PROTOCOL

ALWAYS HAVE A GOOD QUALITY PICTURE OF YOUR DOG AVAILABLE!

Print NOW, review and keep in a readily available location.

It's **MOST** important that you get the news of your missing dog out, far and wide, **QUICKLY! THE FIRST 24 HOURS ARE CRITICAL.** Some dogs will run for a couple of miles or more! The situation should ALWAYS be treated as the dog is in panic and self-preservation mode. This means they will not come if called, and will continue to run if approached. When they tire, they will hunker down in an inaccessible area and you must rely on sightings and quite possibly humane traps to successfully capture the dog.

ITEMS TO COMPLETE IMMEDIATELY

- ☐ Call and text your neighbors and friends notifying them the dog is missing with brief description, picture, and a contact phone number.
 - ☒ Ask them to spread the word quickly: knocking on doors, social media and phone calls/texts with a picture of the missing dog.
- ☐ Ask one of the people you contact to create FLYERS (you will need a minimum of **200** flyers) and gather a team to distribute them door to door **ASAP**. Sample FLYER is attached on page 2.
- ☐ If the dog is chipped, notify microchip provider – Bald is Beautiful uses **AKC Reunite**. (All Bald is Beautiful dogs are registered through this provider).

Phone: 1-800-252-7894 or Email: found@akcreunite.org

- ☐ Contact the local police department and any other police department within a two-mile radius of where the dog went missing. Follow up with a visit and flyer or delegate this task out.
- ☐ Contact one of the three members of the **Bald is Beautiful Missing Dog Support Team** listed below. They will assist you further, provide phone support as needed and keep in touch for updates. The Support Team will notify Ellen Westkaemper and/or Micki Brown and will provide them with updates as you have new information.

Sue Bickford

207-441-7145

Tim Denison

502-648-0680

Kathi Garrone

724-994-7728

- ☐ Coordinate or delegate someone to coordinate SEARCH TEAM(S) with designated search areas based on where the dog went missing or based on most recent sightings. *SEARCH TEAM(S) detail on page 3.*
- ☐ Create or delegate someone to create missing dog posters. *Sample poster is attached on page 3.*

LOST DOG!



MISSING: (date)

NAME: (name)

DESCRIPTION: (name) is a female **hairless** chinese crested. Weighs about 12lbs. Blonde hair on head, ears and face. One ear flops. Wearing colorful jammies and a martingale collar with tags.

LOCATION: Last seen near intersection of (street) and (street) / (city and state)

IMPORTANT: DO NOT CHASE or TRY TO APPROACH!
If you spot (name), PLEASE call number(s) listed ASAP.

(name) needs medication!

555.777.1234

888.555.1234

REWARD OFFERED!

DETAIL ON FLYERS

Print at least 200 on standard 8" X 11" paper

- ☐ Include most recent, clear picture of dog
- ☐ Briefly describe breed and size of dog and any clothing and /or collar/tags the dog is wearing
- ☐ Include dog name and date dog went missing
- ☐ Brief description of area last seen
- ☐ **DO NOT APPROACH** wording is **CRITICAL!**
We don't want the dog to keep moving to different locations, and we assume the dog is in flight mode. We need sightings first and foremost so those with more knowledge can take it from there.
- ☐ Rewards are a good way to get more people looking, but offering a reward is optional. If you offer a large reward, post the amount of the reward. If you offer a small reward, just use the word REWARD.
- ☐ Stating that the dog needs medication stresses urgency and deters persons from wanting to keep a dog or resell a dog who needs medication

DISTRIBUTION OF FLYERS

☐ **FIRST PRIORITY** Flyers should be distributed door to door in the area where the dog went missing or was last seen. Hand one to walkers, joggers, the mailman, the police, the firemen, delivery persons, school bus drivers and anyone you see.

☐ **SECOND PRIORITY** Flyers should be posted in:

(If you can't get a flyer out quickly to these places, phone calls should be made first. These are listed in order of priority)

- ☒ Veterinarians' offices and Vet Emergency hospitals
- ☒ Animal Shelters
- ☒ Pet stores
- ☒ Convenience Stores and Grocery stores
- ☒ Pharmacies
- ☒ Deli's, Diners and pizza places
- ☒ Post offices and liquor stores
- ☒ Surrounding businesses and anywhere else you can think of
- ☒ Post in your and your friends' /family car window

Checkout counters are ideal places to locate the flyer if possible. Be sure to ask permission before posting and ask where it is permissible to post (take tape and thumbtacks)

DETAIL ON SEARCH TEAM(S)

- ☐ Searchers should have leashes (slip leash if available), tasty treats and cell phones with them.
- ☐ Searchers should move quietly and NOT talk loudly
- ☐ Small groups (5-8 people) should search an area with a game plan and a meeting area when the search of the area is complete.
- ☐ Searchers should search as close to dense, vegetated areas as possible, obtain permission to search under porches, in sheds and other hiding spots (obtain permissions from property owner first). Pay special attention to areas where a dog might feel safe: parks, cemeteries, farms, wooded areas.
- ☐ Searchers should be instructed that if the dog is spotted, do not speak or try to catch the dog. Report the sighting instead OR if dog is appearing interested and is friendly:
- ☐ Immediately, but slowly sit down, do not speak and do not make eye contact with the dog.
- ☐ If the dog doesn't run and is close enough, toss treat to a distance that the dog may see or at least smell the treat.
- ☐ If dog moves closer and takes treat, SLOWLY do it again, but slightly closer.
- ☐ Repeat this procedure (may take a long time) until you can lure the dog close enough to take from your hand, but still set the treat down.
- ☐ Then use your judgement as to whether it is safe to attempt to catch the dog.

DETAIL ON POSTERS

USE HUGE POSTER BOARD Neon colored is ideal. Weatherproof with sheet protectors if you can, saran wrap or clear packing tape. Secure with staple gun or thumbtacks.

- Simple, HUGE picture and lettering is best
- If offering reward, use the word REWARD

LOCATION FOR POSTERS

- ☐ Start where dog was lost or last seen and circle outwards in all directions
- ☐ All highly visible locations for foot and vehicle traffic.
- ☐ **Posters should be posted on:**
 - Telephone Poles
 - At stop signs
 - Bus stop enclosures
 - Along walking, biking, jogging trails
 - At traffic lights
 - Any other location that you think appropriate



When posting, take staple gun or thumbtacks and hammer.

Remember that many localities do not really permit postings such as these, so be careful and ESPECIALLY take care to remove ALL posters as soon as the dog is back in your custody.

BALD IS BEAUTIFUL CAN ASSIST YOU WITH THIS!

- ☐ Post the dog as missing on ALL local lost dog websites and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc) as soon as possible
- ☐ Post the dog as missing on Craigslist in your local area WITH PHOTOS.
- ☐ Contact your local shelters daily about the missing dog. Be sure to ask about lost and found listings they may have.
- ☐ Search Craigslist and other similar postings for found dogs and dogs for sale. Follow up on any who could potentially be your missing dog.

Once you have a sighting or two, you may find that you need to set humane traps. There are many local groups that have these traps and will assist you. **It is extremely important**, once traps are set that no other food and water source is available for the dog—ONLY what is in the trap. The best, smelliest, yummy treat and some water should be placed in the trap. The trap must be checked every 3-4 hours around the clock.