

## How to Distinguish Lost and Abandoned Cats from Community Cats

Lost/abandoned cats can also be distinguished from community cats when at least one of the following applies:

- The cat is wearing a collar with an ID tag.
- The cat has a microchip.
- The cat is known to be recently abandoned by the previous owner.
- The cat is actively trying to get into a particular home or building.
- The cat is declawed.
- The cat is new to the area where found (has been seen in area where found for three weeks or less).
- The cat is spayed or neutered without an ear-tip.
- The cat has a ravenous appetite and an unthrifty, disheveled coat, significantly underweight (signs of not thriving outdoors).

In cases where at least one of the above applies, the situation warrants additional consideration and extra time spent determining if the cat is lost/abandoned. If lost/abandoned, follow lost pet reunification tactics as outlined on Found a Dog.

