



COUNTY OF ORANGE

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*****Media Alert*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OC Animal Care Hosts FREE Microchip Clinic for Dogs and Cats

TUSTIN, Calif. (February 21, 2024) – OC Animal Care is thrilled to announce that we will be hosting a Microchip Clinic for residents of our contracted service cities and the County unincorporated areas, tailored to our beloved dogs and cats! Join us for a paw-some event aimed at promoting responsible pet ownership by providing pet owners with the opportunity to have their furry companions microchipped for free.

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024

Time: 8-11 a.m.

Location: OC Animal Care, 1630 Victory Rd. Tustin, CA 92782

Who: The event is open to pet parents of dogs and cats who reside in one of 14 contract service cities or County unincorporated areas

Microchipping is a simple and effective way to ensure that pets can be easily identified and reunited with their owners if they ever become lost. A microchip, which is about the size of a grain of rice, is implanted beneath the skin of the pet and contains a unique identification number. This number can be scanned by animal shelters, veterinary clinics, or pet supply stores, allowing them to quickly access the owner's contact information and reunite lost pets with their families.

Unlike collars and tags, which can break, fall off, or be removed, microchips provide a permanent means of identification. Even if your pet loses its collar or tag, the microchip remains, ensuring they can always be traced back to you. In fact, studies show that lost pets who have a microchip are more likely to be reunited with their humans.

Through our routine operations, OC Animal Care consistently witnesses the profound advantages that microchipping offers in reuniting lost pets. For instance, two days after Valentines Day (2/16/2024), Xena, a little senior chihuahua, was brought to OC Animal Care by a good Samaritan. She arrived at 12:18 p.m. and immediately upon intake, our staff scanned Xena and found a microchip. Thanks to the information we learned from the microchip, we were able to contact her family right away. By 3:30 p.m. the very same day, Xena and her family were reunited, and she was headed home!



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The average cost to microchip a dog or cat can range from \$25 – 60+. Thanks to sponsorship by the **Noble Friends Foundation for OC Animal Care**, up to 100 dogs and cats will be microchipped free of charge (including registration of owner information) during the event.

This event is open to residents of OC Animal Care’s contracted service cities and the County unincorporated areas, and the first 100 dogs and cats will receive microchips free of charge (limit 2 pets per household). A California ID or photo ID with a utility bill, rental/lease agreement, or similar document providing proof of residency in a service area is needed to participate in this event. In addition, all pets must be 8 weeks of age or older, all pets must be well socialized, dogs must be on a 6-foot leash or shorter at all times (no retractable leashes), and cats must be in a secure pet carrier at all times (no feral traps). Please note that this event is on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to arrive early to secure a spot for your pet!

OC Animal Care encourages all pet owners to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure the safety of their furry friends. For more information, please visit ocpetinfo.com or call 714-935-6848.

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About OC Animal Care

OC Animal Care is the largest municipal animal shelter in Orange County, located at 1630 Victory Rd. Tustin, CA 92782. It services 14 cities and takes in over 14,500 animals each year. OC Animal Care provides refuge and care for animals, fosters the human-animal bond, and promotes safety in our community. For more information about OC Animal Care, please visit ocpetinfo.com.

Contract cities include: Anaheim, Brea, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Huntington Beach, Lake Forest, Orange, Placentia, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Ana, Tustin, Villa Park, Yorba Linda, and the County unincorporated areas.