



Schipperke Rescue Net, Inc.

a 501(c)3 charity

Things to do when your Schip GOES MISSING

1. **Call all your friends and family**, anyone you can count on for help. The first few hours are critical as it is far easier to find the dog while it is still closer to home. Have someone stay by the phone while others look, make and distribute posters and flyers, and notify all agencies.
2. **Notify the following institutions:**
 - a. Your local shelters, ASPCA, Humane Leagues, or other animal-related organizations - all of them
 - b. Your local police and/or highway patrol
 - c. Your local post office
3. **Create a flyer** to distribute with the following information: ([sample flyer](#))
 - a. the dog's name, including all nicknames to which it responds.
 - b. a recent, good photograph,
 - c. size information including weight, height, and length
 - d. complete description including behavioral characteristics with strangers
 - e. collar or harness color and tag information
 - f. whether or not to approach the dog (in cases of shy, fearful, or skittish dogs, advise NO approach - just report precise location)
 - g. offer a reward
 - h. **indicate precisely where last seen** and direction where headed
 - i. Your contact information (all phone numbers including cell, work, and alternates, AND email)
 - j. medication needs
 - k. DO NOT INCLUDE:
 - 1) Your name
 - 2) Your address
 - 3) Specific reward amount
 - l. WITHHOLD one item of description information (e.g. hairy toes or small grey streak above right eye) so that unsavory people can't try to scam you.
4. **Distribute flyers** to all above institutions in your area as well as all veterinary clinics and offices, shops (especially Petco, Petsmart, and other pet supply stores), restaurants (dogs may go foraging for food), mall parking lots, supermarket bulletin boards, and any other public bulletin board in the vicinity.
5. **Create a small version** of your standard flyer (easy to do by inserting additional pages of the same flyer into your word processing program file and printing it 4-up - most printers allow you to do this). Cut these apart and provide small stacks to your central Post Office, UPS, trash hauling companies, dry cleaners, utilities, etc., i.e. any company that has regular delivery routes and drivers who might be willing to keep a lookout. Also ask coffee shops, book stores, and other locations where locals shop if they would allow a small stack on their counter or be willing



to give them out with receipts. Hand these out to passersby, shoppers, and bicyclists, etc. They are easier to fold and keep in a pocket or purse.

6. **Attach larger posters** (visible from vehicles) on poles, posts, and other visible display places within at least a 5-mile radius, especially on major intersections. Use large (22"x 28") florescent orange poster board and black permanent markers. Mount your flyer with all information in center. Cover flyer with clear sheet protectors to protect from the weather. Attach to posts and poles with strong duct tape. ([sample poster](#)).
7. **Tape a smaller version of your large poster** on each side and the back of your car or van (not on windows).
8. **Be ready to update all flyers and posters** with newest sighting information and expand your distribution area to coincide with the most recent sighting.
9. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/K9AmberAlert/> and join the group. This is an email list for lost or missing animals similar to the human Amber Alert system. Post all critical information and your clearest picture of your Schip.
10. **Search the Internet** for all "lost dog" and rescue organizations in your area including dog clubs in any and every breed. Check their sites and list your missing dog with all particulars on each and every site. This is where digital pictures can also really come in handy. Here are a couple of lost pet networks to start:



11. **If you are on any dog breed or pet lists**, post the flyer information there and ask them to cross-post to other lists.
12. **If you are in or near a major city**, contact any and every dog club for any breed. They will often announce or let you provide flyers at their meetings.
13. **If you have a CB** or a friend who does, ask them to broadcast the missing dog notice to all truckers passing through the area.
14. **Check this and other websites** for special services to help recover lost pets. These companies specialize in locating lost pets using some of the same techniques used in locating lost people.





Things to do when your missing Schip has been sighted

1. Get precise **information** about the sighting - intersection, name of neighborhood, name of mall, etc., whether the dog has been seen there before, what **direction** he was heading, his/her manner and condition.
2. Keep in mind that a dog on the loose becomes frightened and skittish and may not come to you when you call - no matter how much they would like to. You may have to do some intense searching, especially in old buildings, culverts, or sheds.
3. Take some of that special **treat** and drive VERY slowly around the area where sighted, calling the dog's name and the word he/she most associates with that special car treat (see [BEFORE](#) page).
4. Take the dogs crate, bedding and favorite toys to the location of the sighting and place them along with dishes of food and water. Also take a **loop** of some sort (you can often form one with a leash) to lower gently over the dogs head. Don't count on being able to grab the dog. Be prepared to let the loop do the initial work for you.
5. Once you place the crate, move away from the location and just watch.
 - If the dog appears, **DO NOT** shout or try to catch the dog. It will be very frightened. Just be patient and let him/her approach the crate and food.
 - If the dog goes in the crate and settles down, you may approach slowly and carefully.
 - If not, hang back until the dog seems to recognize the smells associated with the crate, bedding, and toys, and, maybe takes some of the food.
 - Then move toward the dog VERY slowly being extra careful not to startle or spook the dog. If possible let him/her move towards you.
 - Offer the dog the special treat as you gently lower the loop over his/her head. This loop is far easier and less threatening to the dog than trying to grab the collar or harness.
6. If you are searching rural areas or abandoned buildings, be sure you are VERY quiet and **LISTEN** closely for the slightest sound. If a dog is trapped or very frightened you may hear slight noises that guide you where to look.
7. If your dog has a canine friend or playmate, be sure to take him/her with you as you search. Familiar barks may do more to ease the missing dog's fear than

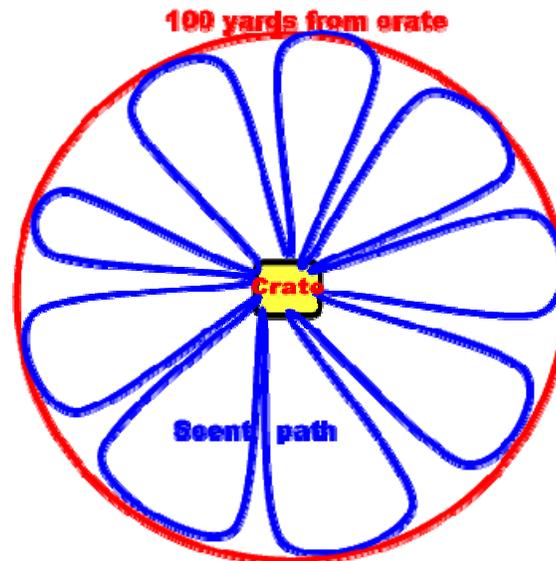


almost anything. Just be sure to keep the companion in a crate, on a very short leash, or otherwise under control.

8. **Here are some special tracking suggestions from [Pat Boggs](#), the real expert in Search and Rescue:**

- Tear one of your tee shirts from the dirty laundry (not a clean one) into strips.
- Lay little treats on the strips along trails to the crate. Make sure the crate has chewies, food, toys, and other items as indicated above.
- Never try to sneak up on the dog, it spooks them even more.
- DON'T hunch over or crouch. The best way to catch a dog is to get down on THEIR level or even lie on the ground.
- Be STILL. Talk softly, and wait.
- Make strange sounds to keep their interest: clucks, pops, clicks, for example.
- Try not to make too much eye contact ... look just to the side. This is non-threatening in nature; direct is a challenge.
- If they run, slowly follow their direction. Usually, they have not gone far, just into hiding.
- NEVER RUN after a dog ... it makes them run faster.

9. **If you cannot quickly get** to the place where your dog has been sighted, then using your tee shirt strips, treats, and walking to create a sort of bicycle wheel or flower of your scent in a wide radius around the crate - 50 to 100 yard radius.



10. **Check back periodically** to see if the crate or scent path has been disturbed. What you are trying to do is create a comfort zone for your dog so that he/she will use the crate as home base. You should know when your dog's usual nap time is and return to the crate at those times.