

## **MICROCHIP IDENTIFICATION**

**A microchip is a tiny chip, the size of a grain of rice. It is implanted under the skin with a special needle and is relatively painless. Each pet who has a chip has a unique number that when scanned is displayed on a special reader. That number is unique to which ever company assigned it. All veterinarian hospitals and rescue shelters have these readers, in the event a lost or potentially stolen pet presents to the facility.**

**Microchipping is the most effective way to ID your pet. It is far superior to collars and tags with engravings, because often these can be lost, rendering the pet with no obvious identification.**

**Also, some municipalities will reduce the annual licensing fee to a one time only fee, for those pets who are chipped.**

**I believe that all pets should be chipped, including indoor cats. Indoor cats potentially can escape from their home and become disoriented and lost easily because the outdoors is unfamiliar territory.**

**Microchipping is an inexpensive endeavour and there are no annual administration fees associated with it.**

**Of most importance, if your pet is chipped, remember, if you move address, to inform the company so that they can change your location in the database.**

**Recently, a friend of mine, found an injured cat on her door step. Fortunately, the cat had a chip but owners had moved and contact information was invalid, making reuniting cat and owner very difficult.**