

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Mike DeFina, Media Relations Officer (617) 293-3530 mdefina@arlboston.org

FOR RELEASE ON: August 15, 2019

ARL Reminds Pet Owners to Make Sure Pets are Microchipped *Today is National Check the Chip Day*

One in three pets will become lost at some point in their life. As we acknowledge National Check the Chip Day, the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) reminds pet owners that the best chance for being reunited with a lost pet is by having them microchipped.

Check the Chip Day is the perfect time to have your pet microchipped if they're not already, and for those that are chipped to make sure the contact information is correct and up-to-date.

A microchip is a computer chip about the size of a grain of rice, programmed with an identification number unique to your pet. It's non-toxic, non-allergenic, and will last the life of your pet with no maintenance required.

As previously mentioned, a microchip greatly increases the likelihood of being reunited with a lost pet. According to an American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) study, 52 percent of dogs with microchips are reunited with owners, while there's just a 21 percent success rate for dogs with no microchip.

Owner return rates for cats with microchips, and for those without, the number plummets to just 1.8 percent.

Like Daylight Saving time is the perfect opportunity to check or change batteries in smoke detectors, today marks National Check the Chip Day – a day for pet owners to either have their pets microchipped, or to make sure all information is updated.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2018, ARL served 17,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government grants or public funding and rely solely on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at www.arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

###