



# OFFICE OF THE SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup> IS CHECK THE CHIP DAY**

**SUMMIT COUNTY, CO-** What would happen if your dog or cat was missing from home? What if he didn't have on a collar or an ID tag? How could that Golden Retriever at the shelter be identified as YOUR Golden Retriever?

Microchips are a permanent form of identification for animals. They are a rice grain sized transmitter that projects a unique number. That number connects to a database with the owner's contact information. It means your pet can provide information to get him or herself home, even without a collar or tag.

But microchips are only valuable if the owners keep their contact information up to date. August 15 is "Check the Chip" day. It is a reminder to have your pet scanned to ensure the microchip is working. Owners should then review their contact information to be sure it is current.

The Summit County Animal Shelter scans all stray animals for a microchip. In one case, a dog that had been missing for a year was returned to her original owner thanks to a microchip. The shelter will also scan your pet if you stop by during business hours. (Please have your pet on a leash or in a carrier) They can tell you what information is on the microchip and how to update your contact numbers if needed.

All animals adopted from the shelter have a microchip. If your pet does not have one, please contact your veterinarian.

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