

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2011**  
**917-807-7829**

**Cat Found in NYC After Being Lost in Colorado Five Years Ago**  
*Microchip Helps Find Owner*



**Willow**

**(Sept. 14, 2011)** – Willow, a 6year-old Tortoise Shell cat, reportedly ran out of her house in Colorado during a home renovation. Today, five years later, she was found as a stray in Manhattan and brought to Animal Care & Control of NYC (AC&C). Thanks to an up-to-date microchip, Willow will soon be reunited with her owners. They still live in Colorado and are currently making arrangements to get her transported back home.

“No one knows how the cat made her way from Colorado to New York City, but we are happy she is safe and will soon be back with her owners,” said Julie Bank, executive director of AC&C. “This miracle story underscores the importance of having some sort of identification on your pet and the effectiveness of a microchip.”

All animals are scanned for an identifying microchip when they come into an AC&C shelter. The chip helps AC&C staff identify lost pets and find their owners. It is important for pet owners keep their contact information current with the microchip company.

It is important to always have identification on your pet. New York City law requires that all dogs be licensed. Cats should wear a collar with ID and be micro-chipped. Pet owners significantly increase their chances of being reunited with a lost pet if it is wearing some form of identification. If you lose your pet, it is important to search for your pet at AC&C shelters. Visit AC&C’s website at [www.nycacc.org](http://www.nycacc.org) for more information.

**About Animal Care & Control**

Animal Care & Control of New York City (AC&C) is the largest pet organization in the Northeast, with nearly 40,000 animals rescued each year. As a non-profit organization since 1995, AC&C has been responsible for New York City's municipal shelter system; rescuing, caring for and finding loving homes for homeless and abandoned animals in New York City. AC&C facilities operate in all five boroughs to service all NYC communities.

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