



City of Cleveland  
Division of Animal Care & Control Services  
9203 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102  
216-664-3069

## WILDLIFE TRAPPING RULES

Trapping and euthanizing healthy wildlife without addressing the root cause does not result in long term human/animal conflict resolution. Please refer to the Division's [Coexisting With Wildlife](#) [handout](#) for preferred solutions to wildlife conflicts.

- Trap must be set before sunset in the evening, and must be checked each morning. All trapped animals must be called into the Division of Animal Control (216-664-3069) **before 9:00am.** Any animals called in after 9:00 am will not be picked up and must be released. **Failure to follow these rules can result in the possibility of charges being filed against you for Animal Cruelty.**
- If the trap is empty, close the trap and do not set again until the evening before sunset. Do **NOT** set traps on the weekends (Friday evening and Saturday evening). **Traps WILL NOT be picked up on Saturday and Sunday.** Under no circumstances should an animal be kept in a trap for twenty four (24) hours. **Failure to follow these rules can result in the possibility of charges being filed against you for Animal Cruelty.**
- The trap should be placed / set in the shade during the summer months to prevent the animals from being in the direct sunlight until they are picked up / removed.
- The trap should also be placed / set on concrete or a piece of plywood. Traps that are placed on grass or dirt areas can be very difficult to lift. The animal attempts to escape which causes grass, dirt, and mud to accumulate and make the trap very heavy.
- Traps must be placed in an area that is easily accessible for our officers.
- Wildlife are trying to find food and nesting places. If your yard is not properly cleaned up and free from food sources you will no longer be able to participate in the trapping program. You will also not be able to participate in our trapping program if your house is adjacent to a wildlife habitat, such as a Metropark.

**IF AN ANIMAL IS IN THE TRAP PLEASE CALL 216-664-3069. OUR CALL VOLUME IS HIGH IN THE MORNING, so if someone does not answer leave a message on our voicemail with your name, address, and location of the trap in the yard, and type of animal in the trap. We only pick up trapped raccoons, groundhogs, skunks, and opossums. These animals are then euthanized and disposed of.**

If you have **not** trapped any wildlife within five business days, the trap must be returned for other residents to borrow. All traps are required to be returned to the Division of Animal Care & Control located at 9203 Detroit Ave. The Wildlife Trapping Service will be available from May 1 to October 31.

**THE TRAP IS PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND AND MUST BE RETURNED UPON REQUEST.**