



TRAPPING GUIDE

RACCOONS

They are nocturnal animals with fluffy, striped tails and bandit masks.

Know your target:

Raccoons are intelligent but can be aggressive. They have opposable thumbs and will dig through trash cans or vegetation looking for food. Raccoons can become “cage-wise”; once they understand that they can become stuck, they will avoid traps in the future.

Choose your trap:

Traps can have a single door or a double door.

Choose your bait:

Stay away from meats as to not attract non-target animals.

- ☐ Prefer sweet foods like marshmallows and watermelon.

Setting the trap:

Traps need to be weighted down or staked to the ground. Raccoons can flip a cage and let themselves out, but could cause injury in the process.

- ☐ Place the trap where you have seen raccoon damage or where you suspect they may live. Consider some of these options:
 - Attics or porches
 - Sheds or beneath other structures

- Wood piles or tree hollows
- Frequently traveled fence lines

- ☐ Check the traps often, two to three times per day.

Releasing your catch:

It is unethical to leave an animal in a trap for an extended period without food or water. Check traps often and release the animal as soon as possible.

- ☐ Wear thick leather gloves to prevent bites from an animal that could transmit disease.
- ☐ Relocate the animal several miles from the location where they were caught. Be sure to check local rules and guidelines from your state game commission before releasing the animal.
- ☐ To keep the move peaceful, approach the trap slowly, use a gentle voice, and place a towel over the cage.
- ☐ It is best to move the animal at night to limit the likelihood of them returning.

Prevent their return:

- ☐ Eliminate food and water sources.
- ☐ Remove trash and material that can be used as a den.
- ☐ Secure the lid on any garbage receptacles.
- ☐ Remove tree branches or shrubbery that extends near roof lines.
- ☐ Cover potential building access points.