

Sponsors:
A04777
Assemblyman Englebright

S05423
Senator Serrano



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HOME RULE FOR TRAPPING

STEELJAW LEGHOLD TRAP

The most common type of trap used to trap animals for fur in the US in non-selective and highly destructive. Victims suffer excruciating pain and fear as they tear ligaments and break teeth in their struggle to free themselves from the bone crushing trap. In many cases, animals chew their legs off to free themselves of the traps, leaving limbs caught in the trap. Banned in at least 88 countries and wholly or partially banned in 11 states, but legal in New York State.



CONIBEAR TRAP

Used to trap beavers and muskrats underwater and martens, fishers, raccoons, and other fur-bearing animals on land. Made of two metal rectangular jaws hinged at the sides with a spring affixed to one or both sides. When an animal walks or swims through the center of the rectangles and brushes up against the trigger, the trap's jaws close with a scissor-like action on the animal's body, designed to snap shut on the spinal column at the base of the skull for a "quick kill." However, the trap often misses this vital spot or does not close with enough force to kill the animal instantly or even render the animal unconscious. The trap's jaws frequently clamp down on the chest or pelvis, crushing bones, blood vessels, and nerves and causing excruciating pain and a prolonged death.



VICTIMS OF TRAPPING:



Meg Massaro's dog Valentine was killed in a Conibear trap. The owner tried desperately to remove the trap. The animal died slowly and painfully over a 30 minute period.



This raccoon was trapped twice each time he chewed of a front paw to escape.

TRAPPING IS NOT APPROPRIATE IN MANY REGIONS OF NEW YORK

- Many regions have undergone significant changes.
- Former Farming communities are now suburban metro areas.
- In 1988 the Suffolk county legislature outlawed trapping.
- In 1997 the Rockland county legislature outlawed trapping.
- The courts held that that a county cannot regulate trapping.
- To allow trapping in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the DEC, in a densely populated area, simply does not make sense.
- Every year companion animals are caught in traps.
- An accident involving a toddler is just waiting to happen.

TRAPPING: A DANGEROUS HOBBY, NOT AN ECONOMIC NECESSITY

- According to the DEC, there are between 5,000-10,000 trappers in New York
- The total annual revenue derived from trapping is about \$500,000
- This means an annual income from trapping of about \$50 to \$100 per trapper.
- The economic impact on of municipalities restricting trapping activities is negligible
- The impact on the safety and comfort of the households in the areas is immeasurable.

Legislation to allow Home Rule for Trapping has been introduced in the Senate as S05423 by Senator Serrano and the Assembly as A04777 by Assemblyman Englebright.

The League of Humane Voters strongly supports these bills and encourages all Senators and Assembly members to work towards their passage into law.