

FURBEARER TRAPPING REGULATIONS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS		
Raccoon	Statewide	10 Nov 2021 - 15 Feb 2022	None			
Opossum						
Striped Skunk						
Weasels						
Mink						
Muskrat						
Fox (Red and Gray)						
Coyote						
Badger				North	2 per person per season	
				South	1 per person per season	
Bobcat	See Bobcat Zone map	One by permit only	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.			
Beaver	Statewide	10 Nov 2021 - 31 Mar 2022	None			
River Otter	Statewide	10 Nov 2021 - 31 Mar 2022				
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	Statewide	1 Jun - 30 Sep 2021	None			

Exposed Bait

You cannot legally:

- place, set or maintain any leghold trap within 30 feet of bait placed in such a manner or position that is not completely covered and concealed from sight, except that this shall not apply to water sets.
- bait means any bait composed of mammal, bird or fish flesh, fur, hide, entrails or feathers. Leghold traps set on land may not be placed around exposed bait, such as animal carcasses.

Beaver, Badger, River Otter, Weasel, Mink, and Muskrat (Trapping Only)

You cannot legally :

- harvest beaver, badger, river otter, weasel, mink or muskrat except by trapping. However, beaver, river otter, weasel, mink, and muskrat can be shot with a firearm, pistol, or airgun of a caliber not larger than a .22 long rifle to remove the animal from the trap.

Trapper Education

Illinois Trapper Education Manual

www2.illinois.gov/dnr/safety/Documents/TrapperEducationManual.pdf

Illinois Trapper Education Classes

www2.illinois.gov/dnr/safety/Pages/Counties.aspx

Rabbits and Squirrels Cannot Be Trapped

It is only legal to trap furbearing mammals and woodchucks. No other game mammals or birds may be trapped.

Trapping Near Dwellings

You cannot legally:

- trap within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling without first obtaining permission from the owner or tenant.

Written Authorization to Handle Traps of Another Person

You cannot legally:

- remove mammals from, move, or disturb in any manner, traps owned by another person without written authorization of the owner to do so.

Permission from Landowner

You cannot legally:

- trap furbearers on another person's property without his or her permission. This includes waters flowing over and/or standing on the land of another person.

Damaging Property While Trapping

You cannot legally:

- destroy or damage another person's property while trapping on his or her land.