



Trapper Education Homework Worksheet

2/16

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Course Date & Time _____

Course Location _____

Phone or E-mail for Course Information _____

- Use your *Trapping Furbearers: An Introduction to Responsible Trapping* student manual (available online at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/92274.html>) as a reference to fill in the missing information or to select the best choice on the following pages.
- **Bring the completed worksheet with you to your trapper education class so your instructor can review it for completion. The completed worksheet is a requirement for entry into the class.**
- For general information about the Sportsman Education program, call toll-free **1-888-486-8332** or visit the Sportsman Education webpage on the DEC website at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7860.html

Chapter 1: Introduction

1. By requiring trapper education for all first time trappers, New York State aims to introduce new trappers to:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

2. List two resources that can help you learn more about trapping:

1. _____
2. _____

Chapter 2: History of Trapping

3. Name two benefits of trapping furbearers:

1. _____
2. _____

Chapter 3: Furbearer Management

4. Name two positive effects that furbearers can have on the environment:

1. _____
2. _____

5. Name two negative effects that furbearers can have on the environment:

1. _____
2. _____

6. Responsible trapping of wildlife populations can be done without eliminating their populations because they are:

- a. Disposable resources
- b. Protected species
- c. Breeding stocks
- d. Renewable resources

7. _____ stock is the portion of the population that the habitat can support. _____ stock is the portion the habitat cannot support.

8. Fur provides garments that are not only durable, warm, and beautiful, but they also leave much less of a _____ footprint than their synthetic counterparts.

Chapter 4: Trapping Laws, Regulations, and Ethics

9. How do responsible trappers target the species that they want to catch and avoid catching non-target animals?

- a. By selecting trap types and sizes made specifically to capture the target species
- b. By avoiding areas known to be frequented by non-target species
- c. By using baits and lures that are attractive to target species and not to non-target species whenever possible
- d. All of the above

10. If you come across an illegal trap set near your trap line, what should you do?

- a. Take the trap and don't tell anyone
- b. Notify your local Environmental Conservation Officer
- c. Read the trap ID tag and confront the trapper yourself
- d. Do nothing and go about your own trap line

11. True or False: If you are trapping in an area where dogs and cats are found it is ok to use body-gripping traps if you don't use many of them.

12. True or False: The addition of extra trap springs is a good idea if you are finding sprung sets.

13. Most land furbearers in New York State can be effectively trapped with traps no larger than a:

- a. #1.5 coil spring
- b. 330 body-gripping trap
- c. #4 double long-spring
- d. None of the above

Chapter 5: Trapping Safety and Wildlife Diseases

14. What are three things that you as a trapper can do to prevent hypothermia?
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
15. True or False: Clear ice is the strongest and 3 inches is the minimum thickness needed for one person to safely cross, but 4 inches is better.
16. If you fall through the ice you should:
- a. Climb out facing the direction you came from when the ice gave way
 - b. When you get out, roll in the direction you came from when you fell through
 - c. Build a fire immediately unless you are close to shelter or a vehicle to get warm
 - d. All of the above
17. Rabies is a _____ that infects the central nervous system. Left untreated, rabies is always _____.
18. List three ways that rabies can be transmitted.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
19. What disease transmitted to humans through contaminated water causes diarrhea, cramping, weakness, and mild fever?
- a. Raccoon roundworm
 - b. Leptospirosis
 - c. Tularemia
 - d. Giardia
20. True or False: Trappers should always wear gloves when skinning a furbearer.
21. List five safety tips that trappers should follow when outside, regardless of the weather:
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

Chapter 6: Equipment and Preparation

22. List five items found in a typical fox trapper's pack basket:
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

23. By law, all your traps must be clearly marked or tagged with your _____ or your _____.
24. True or False: Foot encapsulating traps are designed specifically for the capture of raccoons.
25. What minimum number of swivels is best to have in your trap anchoring system? _____
26. Whenever setting large body-gripping traps, the trapper should use a _____.
27. Body-gripping traps should not be waxed because _____
_____.

Chapter 7: Best Management Practices

28. "BMP" stands for:

29. BMPs are methods, actions and equipment that do what three things to help trapping?
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
30. BMPs evaluate _____ to ensure live restraining traps capture animals with a low injury rate.
31. Selectivity means traps must be used in a fashion that limits the catch of _____ animals but still are effective at catching the desired furbearer.
32. Live restraining traps were also examined for how _____ they are to the trapper and other people that might encounter the trap.

Chapter 8: Selective Trapping Techniques

33. What is the first consideration for selective trapping?

34. Abundant sign of the desired animal is not the only determining factor in whether or not you have found a good location for a set. What are three other factors that must be considered?
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
35. What is one way to keep dogs from approaching the trap in a cubby set made for raccoons?

36. To catch raccoons but reduce the chances of attracting cats or dogs, use _____ baits instead of ones that smell like _____ or _____.

37. To avoid catching birds of prey, you should _____.
38. Other than bait, lure, and location, name five choices you can make to be more selective in what you catch.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

Chapter 9: Natural History of New York Furbearers

39. List fourteen furbearers that can be trapped in New York State.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____
 9. _____
 10. _____
 11. _____
 12. _____
 13. _____
 14. _____

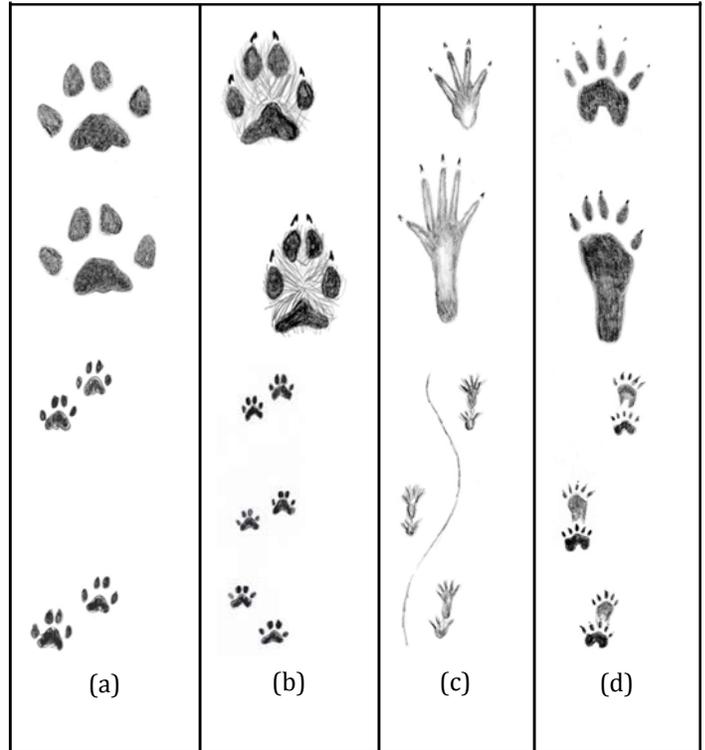
40. Why is it important for a trapper to know the natural history of the furbearer they want to trap?
- _____
- _____

41. Tularemia is an infectious disease in wildlife that can be passed to humans through contact with infected animals. Name two furbearers in New York that are susceptible to tularemia.
1. _____
 2. _____

42. List four different types of traps that would be effective for trapping raccoons
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

43. Name three types of sets that would be effective for trapping bobcat.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

44. When might a trapper use a guarded foot-hold trap and why?
- _____
- _____
45. Match the tracks below to the appropriate animal (muskrat, raccoon, bobcat, gray fox):

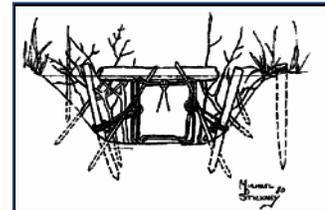


- a. _____ b. _____
- c. _____ d. _____

Chapter 10: Common Water Sets

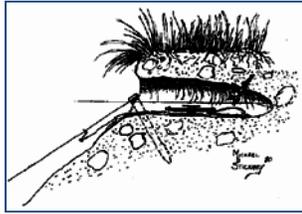
46. Be certain your traps are anchored or staked solidly enough to hold:
- a. Your targeted furbearer
 - b. The strongest animal you might catch
 - c. Repeated catches
 - d. All of the above
47. The channel set is a poor choice to catch:

- a. Raccoon
- b. Muskrat
- c. Otter
- d. Beaver



48. The depth of the water at the set will determine:
- a. Type of trap to use
 - b. If the animal will be submerged
 - c. If a sliding lock should be used
 - d. All of the above

49. The pocket set is a very good set to take mink, muskrat and raccoon. To help make this set dog-proof:
- Set under branches or exposed roots
 - Avoid meat baits and raccoon gland lure
 - Keep trap well inside the pocket opening
 - All of the above



Chapter 11: Land Sets

50. Body-gripping traps are designed to _____ the animals they catch. Due to this, trappers must exercise _____ to avoid the unintentional capture of _____ or _____.
51. What type of land set would not be a good choice for trapping fox or coyote?

52. When and why would a trapper choose to use a box or cage trap?

53. A _____ set can be effective for fox because they have a habit of trying to avoid getting their feet wet.
54. What type of land set is good for nearly all predatory furbearers?

55. When using a leaning-pole set you should move the trigger of the body-gripping trap to the side to prevent _____ and the bait should be covered to avoid _____.

Chapter 12: Running a Trap Line

56. How frequently should a responsible trapper check traps?
- When he/she expects to capture an animal
 - Every day, as late in the day as possible
 - On days with unpleasant weather
 - As soon as possible as required by regulation

57. Name three reasons why a responsible trapper should check their traps early in the morning:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
58. When actually checking a trap, the trapper should:
- Check the bait
 - Approach close enough to the set to see the trap
 - Check the trap covering and/or area around the set for signs of a visit
 - All of the above
59. What are three items that can be used to release unintended animals from your trap?
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
60. The best way to kill a trapped furbearer depends on the location of the trap set as well as _____, _____, and _____.
61. The first thing a trapper should do before trapping on private land is:
- Scout the area
 - Ask neighboring properties if they are experiencing any furbearer problems
 - Get permission from the landowner
 - Work out a trapping schedule

Chapter 13: Fur Handling Equipment, Techniques, and Marketing

62. Two important factors in selecting a skinning knife are _____ and _____.
63. A device designed for hanging animals during skinning is called a _____.
64. Name the two types of fur stretchers that are available.
- _____
 - _____
65. Which animal is skinned "open"?

Acknowledgements

This workbook was developed by the following members of the Sportsman Education Program Team: Ken Baginski, Mike Clark, Nicole Corrao, Chuck Dente, Kelly Hamilton, Andy MacDuff, Anne McNamara, Matt Merchant, Ashley Meyers, Melissa Neely, Adam Perry, and Frank Phillips. Second edition, printed 2016. Animal track drawings courtesy of Silvertip Productions. Set drawings by Michael Stickney.