Youth Trapping in Ontario

Trapping is an activity of significant historical, social and cultural value and one that results in economic benefits to communities and individuals throughout Ontario.

Trapping is the oldest industry in Canada, representing an important heritage activity and is also an important tool for managing furbearer populations.

Photo: A. Chartrand

Why allow youth to trap?

A youth trapping program will provide recreational and outdoor benefits to young people, pass along family traditions and promote succession planning in the trapping industry through the recruitment of new trappers.

Qualifications required for youth trappers.

Youth will be permitted to obtain a trapping licence if they meet the following qualifications:

- Between the age of 12 and 15 years
- Resident of Ontario or Canadian citizen.
- Successful completion of the 40 hour Fur Harvest, Fur Management and Conservation Course.
- Written parental/guardian consent.

Upon successful completion of the course, youth will be eligible to apply for a trapping licence. Licenced youth will be permitted to participate in most aspects of trapping including; setting traps and preparing and selling the pelts of furbearing mammals. Licenced youth will only be permitted to trap under the direct supervision of an experienced mentor trapper who is at least 18 years of age.

Can youth trappers use firearms?

Youth who wish to use a firearm may do so if:

1. They hold a Class A1 Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card (for firearms); or
2. They hold a Class H1 (hunting) outdoors card.
3. Youth may only use a single firearm which is shared with the mentor trapper.

How can you apply?

Contact your local Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Office at www.mnr.gov.on.ca.

QUESTIONS?

Contact your local MNR or one of these trapping licence issuing authorities:

Ontario Fur Managers Federation
www.furmanagers.com

Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)
www.anishinabek.ca

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN)
www.nan.on.ca

Grand Council Treaty #3
www.gct3.net