

Effective Baits

Cats: Cat food, fish, catnip, soiled cat litter, cat toys, feathers

Dogs: Dog food, rawhide bones, pork rinds, fresh rabbit droppings, butcher bones, rotten eggs

Rabbits: Apples, carrots, pea pods, anise oil, peppermint, apple juice or cider sprayed over the trap bed

Raccoons:..... Marshmallows, sweet corn, cream corn, honey, sardines, cod liver oil, mackerel

Opossums:..... Apples, melons, marshmallows, other fresh fruits

Skunks: Chicken entrails, fish (canned or fresh), bacon, insect larvae

Armadillos: Raw eggs, fruit, sardines

Squirrels:..... Nuts, sunflower seeds, a mixture of peanut butter and oatmeal

Woodchucks: . Fresh string beans, sweet corn, lettuce, peas, bananas

Code Compliance Services

How to Set a Live Animal Trap



Arlington Animal Services

1000 S.E. Green Oaks Blvd.
Arlington, Texas 76018

M-F 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone 817-459-5898
Fax 817-459-5698

www.arlingtontx.gov/animals



817-459-5898

Live traps are a humane tool to capture and relocate wild or domestic animals. However setting a live trap means accepting responsibility for the animal's well being until the animal has been relocated by an Arlington Animal Services officer.

1. Plan Ahead

- Research information about the animal you intend to catch.
- Be sure you will be available to check the trap several times daily.
- Keep in mind the animal center's hours of operation and holidays to prevent an animal from being trapped too long. A trap will not be serviced after 3 p.m. Monday-Friday and after 12 p.m. on Saturdays.

2. Get a Trap

Arlington Animal Services makes traps available for citizens, or individuals may purchase traps from private dealers. To obtain a trap from the center, first call ahead to check availability. Also, a \$50 refundable security deposit is required to obtain a trap.

3. Set the Stage

The trap will only work if you can get the animal to go into it:

- Scatter small samples of bait around the trap.
- Make a food trail that leads to the main course inside the trap.
- Use suitable bait and a good location to further entice the animal.

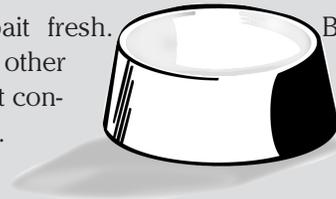
4. Location

The location of your trap will greatly determine its effectiveness. For example, cats may be trapped on top of a picnic table, while skunks may be caught underneath a table. Be sure the animal will not be close to any potential danger. Also, find a shady location during summer months, and have a cover for rainy days.

5. Bait the Trap

Use species-specific bait:

- Place the bait in safe containers. Be careful of sharp edges on canned food.
- Keep the bait fresh. Be sure ants and other insects do not consume the bait.
- Place water in the trap along with the food to keep the animal hydrated.



6. Relocate

When you have successfully trapped an animal, report it to the animal center immediately. If the center is closed, you may leave a voice message with your address and phone number, or call again the next morning. If the animal was not the animal you were trying to catch, you may release it yourself if you feel comfortable doing so.

Any time you trap a wild or domestic animal, you risk the possibility of injury, stress, or death to that animal. Depending upon your particular situation, live trapping may not be your best solution.

Consider first these suggestions to protect your home from nuisance animals:

- Place your trash in covered receptacles, and wait until the morning of trash pickup to set it out.
- Do not feed stray or wild animals.
- Screen chimneys and vents to prevent attic nesting.
- Spray fox urine or place ammonia soaked rags near problem areas to deter Armadillos, Opossums, Raccoons, and skunks.

Also be aware that you will be legally responsible for the animal's health while it is in your care.

