



THE TRAPPING PROGRAM IS FOR NUISANCE ANIMALS ONLY! SETTING THE BOX TRAP MEANS THAT YOU HAVE READ THESE RULES AND YOU AGREE TO FOLLOW THEM. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES CAN/WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF USING THIS SERVICE. If you have questions call before setting the trap.

- 1) The Pennsylvania Game Commission defines NUISANCE animals as those that do property destruction. Agricultural crops/gardens are a man-made source of food and wildlife are NOT considered a nuisance if they eat flowers, plant, landscaping, bird feeders etc. If you have a garden it needs to be protected with some type of fencing. Damage to fencing is property damage.
- 2) Traps will NOT be given out for reasons such as but not limited to: Animals walking on/around a property, feces/urine, digging in landscaping, unprotected gardens, unsecured garbage.
- 3) *Wild animals may be on your property because they are looking for things like food, water, and shelter. This program is not to be used to remove an animal that does not damage property. The property owner is responsible for keeping their property clean, free from debris and food sources. The property owner is responsible for making any changes that the responding Animal Control Officer makes to eliminate any of the known issues. Failure to make the suggested changes can/will result in the stopping of this service*
- 4) *During Trapping season, please keep an eye on the weather, and DO NOT SET THE TRAP IN INCLEMENT WEATHER. Animal Control DOES NOT provide or service traps when the temperatures fall below 40 degrees or above 90 degrees.*
- 5) **Do not set and leave the traps in direct sunlight**. Most animals will not go into a hot metal trap. Leaving an animal exposed to suffering can be considered animal cruelty under the PA animal cruelty laws.
- 6) *If you are going to be away from your property for a long period of time, DO NOT SET THE BOX TRAP!!!*
- 7) You are responsible for checking the trap first thing in the morning and often throughout the day. CALL as soon as you catch the targeted nuisance animal. Inform the dispatcher of the nuisance animal that you caught. If you caught something other than the targeted nuisance animal, it needs to be released. The non targeted animal will be released on the property to return back to its home.
- 8) **For nuisance Groundhogs: Daytime trapping only** Use fresh fruit/vegetables, switch the bait if the animal shows no interest in your first choice. It's very important to use fresh bait daily. To avoid catching other animals like raccoons, cats or skunks, only set the trap during the daytime between breakfast and dinner hours (7 am – 6 pm) IT IS A MUST TO CLOSE THE TRAP AT NIGHT. Check the trap throughout the day. If no Groundhog was caught, clean out the food and close the trap to prepare it for the next trapping day.
- 9) **For nuisance Raccoon: Nighttime trapping only**. Use marshmallows for the bait and set the trap at night only. Check the trap at 7am, If no Raccoon was caught, clean out the food and close the trap until the next trapping night. All nighttime trapping must be checked no later than 7am and make the call for pickup before 9am if pickup is needed.
- 10) **For Skunks and rats**: This program is **NOT** for skunks or rats! Due to the smell of skunks and the damage to equipment and trucks, we DO NOT HANDLE these animals. If you catch a skunk or rat in our box traps YOU are responsible for releasing them. You can contact a private pest company that specializes in these animals. These companies will charge you a fee for their services.
- 11) Animal Control allows you to use the trap for 7 days understanding that the seventh day is for **pick up and not trapping**. For the first 6 days, you are responsible for setting & baiting the trap. Animal Control will plan to pick up the trap early on day 7. Please make sure the trap is clean and ready for pickup on day 7.
- 12) Homeowners/property owners with their own traps must follow and abide by all local, state, and federal wildlife trapping rules and regulations. The use of this service does not supersede any laws.
- 13) You are only permitted to catch one nuisance animal per day. Animal Control is not staffed to make multiple trips per house per day.
- 14) For trap questions, request or pickups call: Upper St. Clair 412-833-7501, Whitehall 412-884-1100, Bethel Park 412-833-2000 all other municipalities with SHCAC as their Animal Control call **Allegheny County Dispatch at 412-279-6911.**

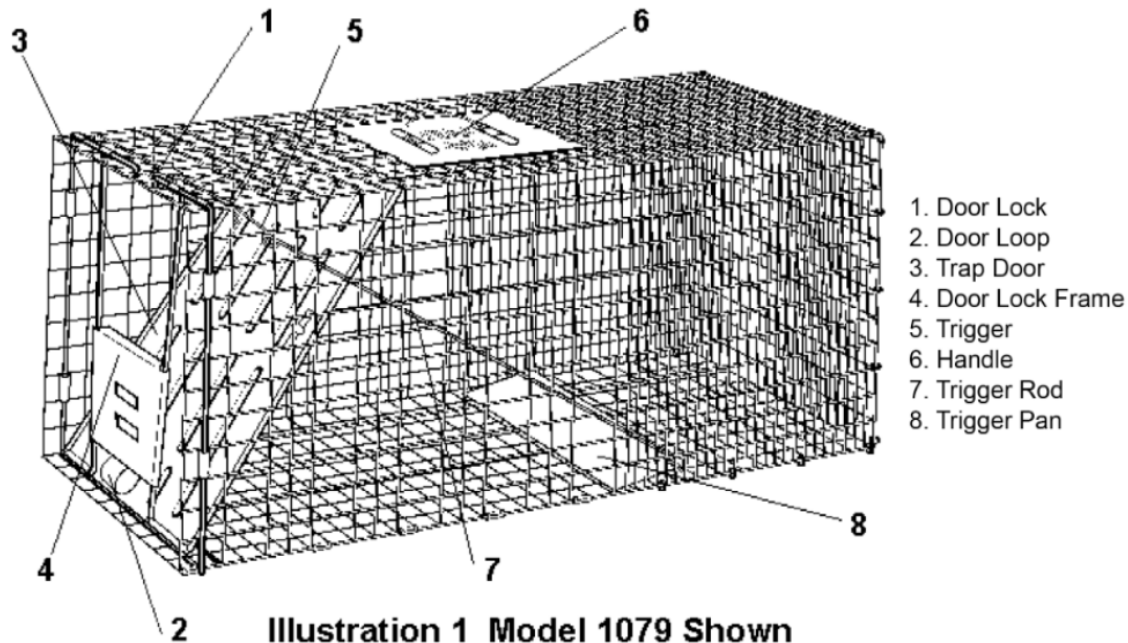


Illustration 1 Model 1079 Shown

Trapping Tips:

Here are some helpful guidelines to follow when trapping a nuisance animal: ([Video can be found on You Tube](#))

- Locate the box trap in an area where the animal is often observed.
- Place the trap on a level surface.
- Position a side of the trap against a wall of a building or in the path commonly traveled by the animal.
- Do not attempt trapping in the rain or severe weather.
- Do not leave the trap out in direct sunlight, provide shade if it's not available.

Baiting Instructions:

- Lift door lock up from the top (Item #1 above)
- Place a forefinger through the loop (item #2) and push inward on the attached plate (item #4) with your thumb
- Release the lock on the top (item #1)
- While pushing in on the attached plate, pull up toward the lock to open main door (item #3)
- Place the bait about 2 inches from the rear of the trap. DO NOT place bait on the trigger pan (item #8)
- Set the trap door by pulling the metal trigger rod (item #5) Gently maneuver the door while lining up the trigger rod with the holes in the main door (item #3)