

# Georgia Trapping Regulations

## Season

The trapping season for furbearers is Dec. 1 - Feb. 28. There is no closed season for the trapping of beaver or coyote in this state.

## Furbearer Species

**O.C.G.A. § 27-1-2 (31)** "Fur-bearing animals" means the following animals: mink, otter, raccoon, fox, opossum, muskrat, skunk, bobcat, and weasel.

## Bobcat and Otter Tagging

All bobcats and otters trapped in Georgia and exported out of Georgia must be tagged with a Federal Export Tag. The tag must be attached by State personnel no later than (10) days after the close of the trapping season.

## Licenses

A trapping license is required for trapping and selling fur, hides and pelts. Click [here](#) for license application (must be completed and then mailed or brought to License Office at 2065 US Hwy. 278, SE, Social Circle, GA 30025).

## Wildlife

No wildlife except those specified as furbearers may be trapped at any time within this state, except as may be provided in state law.

## Rights-of-Way

It is unlawful to trap any wildlife upon the right-of-way of any public road or highway of this state.

## Inspection of Traps

It is unlawful to fail to inspect traps at least once each 24-hour period and remove any animals caught in the traps.

## Stamping of Traps

It is unlawful to trap wildlife except with traps which are at all times legibly stamped, etched, or tagged with the owner's name or owner's permanent trapper's identification number provided by the department.

## Choke Sticks

It is unlawful to fail to carry a choke stick or similar device while tending traps and to use that device to release domestic animals.

## .22 Cal. Rimfires

It is unlawful to fail to carry a weapon of .22 cal. rimfire while tending traps and to use that weapon to dispatch any furbearing animal to be taken.

## Permission

It is unlawful to trap any wildlife upon the lands or in the waters of any other person except with written consent of the owner, which must be on the person setting or using the traps.

## Body Gripping Traps

Body gripping traps in excess of 9.5 inches square may be used only in water or within 10 feet of water. No. 2 Traps  
It is unlawful to set on land any trap with a jaw opening any larger than 5.75 inches.

## Snares

Snares may be used for trapping beaver provided that snares are set in water or on land within ten (10) feet of water, including swamps, marshes, and tidal areas. All snares must be marked with the trapper's name or identification number.

## Sale of Dog or Cat Fur

It is unlawful to sell the fur, hide or pelt of any domestic dog or cat caught by a trap.

## WMA'S

The use of traps on any wildlife management area is prohibited except under special permit from the Wildlife Resources Division.

## Reports

Within 10 days after the close of trapping season, all trappers must report in writing the number of furs, hides or pelts which have been taken during the open season and the person to whom sold. By completing and returning the Georgia Trapper Questionnaire, which is sent to all licensed trappers, you will fulfill this obligation. Such reports must be mailed to: Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, Game Management, Attn: Furbearer Biologist , 1773-A Bowen's Mill Highway, Fitzgerald , GA 31750.

## Exportation of Furs, Hides and Pelts

At least 3 days prior to shipping, transporting or otherwise conveying any furs, hides or pelts outside this state, a written report of the number and type of furs, hides or pelts to be exported and the name and address of the person to whom such furs, hides or pelts are to be shipped must be filed with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division. Failure to submit a report may result in revocation of license, in addition to criminal proceedings. Any furs, hides or pelts shipped outside of this state contrary to these provisions shall be declared contraband and seized and disposed of as provided by law. Such reports must be mailed to: Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, Game Management, Attn: Furbearer Biologist , 1773-A Bowen's Mill Highway, Fitzgerald , GA 31750.

Possession, Sale or Transportation of Alligator Hides or Parts Allowed only in accordance with provisions found in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Title 27, and Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Chapters 391-4-11, 391-4-12, 391-4-13, only by licensed alligator farmers and agent-trappers.

## Fur Dealers Reports

Within 60 days after the close of trapping season, all fur dealers must report in writing the number of each type of hide, fur, skin, or pelt purchased during the preceding year, the date of purchase, the name of the person from whom purchased, and the person's trapping or raccoon fur seller's license number. Such reports must be mailed to: Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, Game Management, Attn: Furbearer Biologist , 1773-A Bowen's Mill Highway, Fitzgerald , GA 31750.