



LIVE TRAP GIVEAWAY PROGRAM

Increased involvement in outdoor activities such as trapping will benefit everyone who enjoys the abundant natural resources South Dakota has to offer.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks is focused on increasing participation in trapping from all ages while at the same time, reducing localized populations of nest predators (raccoon, striped skunk, badger, opossum, and red fox) as a way to increase pheasant and duck nest success.

Trapping efforts should occur in or directly adjacent to quality nesting habitat and be focused during the primary nesting season (April 1 through August 31). However, the trapping season for the five nest predators listed above is open year-round.

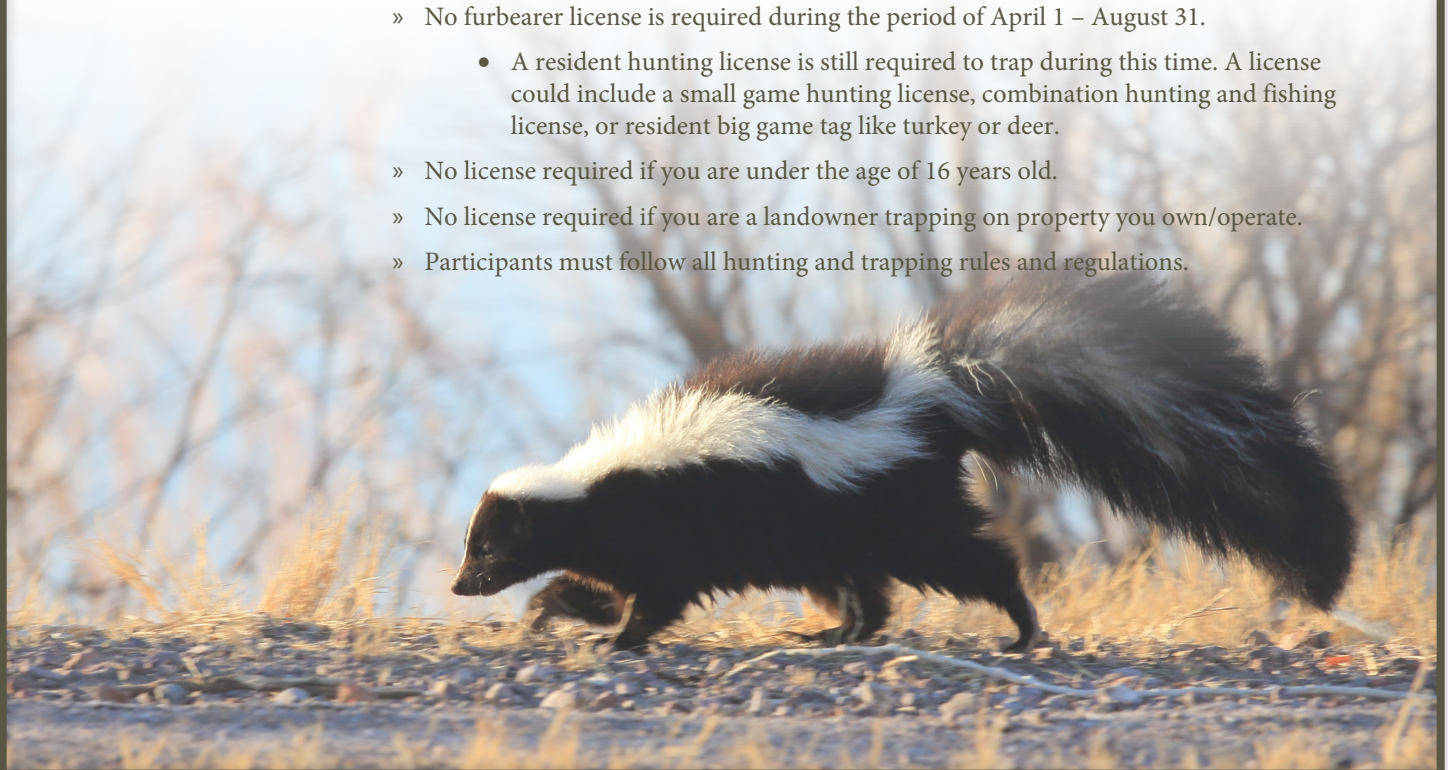
Get outside, seek the adventure and help sustain our state's outdoor traditions for the next generation.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- » Trapper must be a resident of South Dakota.
- » Limit of 3 live traps per household – with a heavy focus on youth participation.
 - » Register online at LiveTrapProgram.sd.gov
 - » Once you have registered, a GFP representative will contact you for pick up.
- » Live traps cannot be sold, bartered, or traded.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

- » A furbearer license is required to harvest these nest predators.
- » No furbearer license is required during the period of April 1 – August 31.
 - A resident hunting license is still required to trap during this time. A license could include a small game hunting license, combination hunting and fishing license, or resident big game tag like turkey or deer.
- » No license required if you are under the age of 16 years old.
- » No license required if you are a landowner trapping on property you own/operate.
- » Participants must follow all hunting and trapping rules and regulations.





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TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- » GFP recommends 5 live traps per 160 acres of nesting habitat.
- » Place live traps in or directly adjacent to quality pheasant nesting habitat like CRP fields or other grasslands.
- » Quality trap locations include: near or along edges of habitat (i.e. fence lines, trees, wetlands, two-tracks and rockpiles).
- » Place live traps on flat ground to avoid the animal from tipping the trap over and escaping. If the ground is uneven, place a stake through the back into the ground to keep it from tipping.
- » Effective baits include: whole eggs, marshmallows, dry or canned cat food, tuna, smelt, white golf-balls and commercial trapping baits. Baits should be placed at the very back.
- » Once bait is placed inside, slide both rings up on the front door and set the rod that controls the pan at a 90° angle to the rod on the trap door (when the door is completely open) - (*some live traps have a rod notched for proper alignment).
- » All traps must be checked every 48 hours East River and 72 hours West River.

TIPS FOR DISPATCHING THE ANIMAL

- » Wear heavy or leather gloves.
- » Approach the live trap slowly.
- » Stick the rifle barrel through the wire and shoot the animal in the head (rimfire rifles work best, like a .22).
- » Roll the live trap over onto its top (the door will fall open).
- » Dump the animal out of the live trap and properly dispose of the carcass.
 - » GFP recommends that you bury the carcass.
- » For **STRIPED SKUNKS**, it is recommended to approach the trap very slowly and quietly with a tarp held up in front of you, upwind if possible. Slowly place the tarp over the live trap, leaving the front door uncovered. Next, gently push the trap over (first onto its side, then again, unto the top) with a long stick or broom handle and the front door will fall open.
- » Once the striped skunk exits the trap, shoot it.
 - » **Striped skunks will usually spray when they are shot. Use EXTREME caution.