



MAINE HOMEOWNER GUIDE

Wildlife Trapping & Removal

When trapping or hands-on removal is the appropriate tool for a nuisance-wildlife problem.

Trapping is only one tool. First identify the animal, how it is using the property, whether dependent young may be present, and whether removal, eviction, exclusion, or another lawful method best fits the situation.

1 Identify	2 Plan	3 Remove/evict	4 Confirm clear	5 Prevent return
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Maine rules matter

Maine trapping seasons and methods are regulated, and animal-damage-control provisions may apply outside ordinary recreational trapping. Certified ADC agents are expected to use preventive and proactive measures within their authorized categories.

The Turcotte process

Our process is **Evaluate -> Remove -> Exclude -> Restore**. When trapping is appropriate, the

Young animals change the plan

MDIFW says the species, entry point, and presence of young should be determined before eviction. Separating a mother from dependent young can create welfare problems and additional property damage.

Removal is not prevention

Taking one animal away does not close an opening or remove an attractant. Long-term control usually means correcting access, food, shelter, or structural conditions afterward.

Removal. Repair. Prevention.
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Sources: Maine IF&W; ADC program, Trapping Laws & Rules, Evicting Animals From Buildings.
Educational summary current Sept. 2026. Wildlife laws, seasons and agency guidance can change; site-specific conditions control.