

MOLE TRAP POLICY

PURPOSE:

The purpose for providing the mole traps is in direct response to the questions many residents of Muskingum County have about how to deal with this nuisance animal. The program is designed to help landowners to see the effectiveness of mole traps in dealing with this problem animal. **Our hope is once landowners see the effectiveness of these new style mole traps, they will purchase their own. The duration of the program is not to exceed three years. The mole traps may be limited or unavailable during the program period.**

POLICY:

The Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors to effectively carry out this program have adopted the following policy:

There will be a \$5.00 fee for the use of the mole traps. There will also be a clean up deposit of \$20.00 per trap required for the use of these traps. The deposit will be returned to the Cooperator upon return of the trap(s) cleaned and sanitized to the District's satisfaction.

The time which the Cooperator may have the mole traps in his/her possession is two weeks. A fee of \$5.00 per trap per day will be assessed for the late return of the traps. Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the Board of Supervisors with their decision being final. The calculated time of possession for the mole traps prior to a penalty charge is based on the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Cooperator will be responsible for damages to the mole traps while in their possession. The payment for such damages shall be made to the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District. Failure to pay said charges would result in the matter being referred to the Muskingum County Prosecutor.

The District Wildlife Specialist or his representative will instruct the first time user on the use of the traps. The repeat user will not receive instruction unless specifically requested.

The Cooperator is responsible for the transportation of the mole traps from the point of pickup to the cooperator's residence and back to the original point of pickup. The pickup point is the District office unless otherwise specified by the District office.

The Cooperator is responsible for the trapping and disposal of all moles caught in the mole traps.

The mole traps will be cleaned and sanitized after use by the Cooperator, using a 10% household bleach solution (Ex: 13 oz. bleach to 1 gal. water). The \$20.00 cleanup deposit per trap will be forfeited if the Cooperator fails to clean and sanitize the traps to the District's satisfaction.

The District staff will perform preventative maintenance on the live traps as needed.

Adopted: