



3910 Old Canoe Creek Rd St Cloud FL 34769  
407-742-8000

## Trapping cats

Any person, company, or entity who engages in the trapping of cats in Osceola County, must follow the below guidelines to ensure public safety and the welfare of the animal.

1. You must notify the Animal Services Department of the location and duration of any trap being set in advance of setting the trap.
2. Traps must be set in shaded areas. No trap should be set in an area that will be subjected to direct sunlight. Take into consideration the movement of the earth and therefore, where the sun will hit at various times during the day.
3. Place traps in an area where the potential for it to be tampered with is minimized. Traps should be out of sight from sidewalks, roadways, etc.
4. Traps must be covered with a towel or sheet to minimize stress on trapped animals. Traps shall remain covered after the animal is trapped and during transport.
5. Water must be provided at the time the trap is set. We understand many animals will overturn water containers but water must still be provided initially.
6. Be careful of ant beds. Do not place a trap if you see ants on the ground or beds as they will be attracted to the food and get on any trapped animal.
7. Traps must be checked prior to use to ensure they are in proper working order.
8. Check traps several times per day, every few hours except during nighttime hours, to avoid prolonged stress and possible injury to the animal. Trapped cats should be immediately transported to Animal Services during normal hours of operation. Animal Services does not have resources to check and monitor traps. This is the sole responsibility of the person who has possession of the trap whether the trap belongs to the County or is personally owned. Citizens should not transport wildlife but rather contact Animal Services at 407-742-8000 for pick-up. Do not set traps Friday or Saturday nights for wildlife as we do not offer pick up services on Saturday, Sunday or holidays unless the trapped animal has bitten someone or is sick or injured. If that is the case, call the number above and request an Animal Services Officer. Photos of the injury will need to be documented by the responding officer. False reports can result in the issuance of a citation.
9. Do not bait traps with tainted food or any other items that could be harmful to the animal if ingested.
10. Do not release, harass or attempt to handle trapped animals.
11. Make sure the trap is covered and you are wearing gloves when picking up the trap by the handle to avoid being scratched or bitten by the cat.
12. Citizens who trap animals are solely responsible for taking precautions to prevent injury or other harm to the animal, themselves, and others.
13. Trapping cats and taking them to another location without first making provisions for care is potential animal abandonment and may be a criminal offense under Florida State Statute 828.13.

Any person, company, or entity that does not adhere to these procedures may be subject to citation or further action. It is a violation of Florida Statute to harass, torment, torture, mutilate, abandon or otherwise harm an animal.

By signing below, you are agreeing to adhere to the above procedures and understand that any deviation from these guidelines may result in the issuance of a citation or other action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
OCAS Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date