

FURBEARER HEALTH STUDY

MONITORING MUSKRAT & GRAY FOX POPULATIONS



DO YOU TRAP MUSKRATS OR GRAY FOXES?

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is collecting muskrat and gray fox carcasses, along with red fox carcasses, as part of a study to monitor health and assess any pathogens or toxicants that may impact populations. If you're interested in participating, please follow the guidelines below.



INSTRUCTIONS

- Carcasses can be skinned or unskinned, but must be frozen within 24 hours of harvest and include the entire body and head.
- Keep carcasses frozen until KDFWR staff can coordinate pick-up.
- A carcass tag enclosed in a Ziplock bag **must** be attached to each carcass.
- Carcass tags can be printed from fw.ky.gov, written on a piece of paper, or requested by emailing wildlifehealth@ky.gov.
- To coordinate pick-up, please email wildlifehealth@ky.gov.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Use disposable gloves when handling carcasses.
- Do not touch your face when handling carcasses.
- Wash hands with soap and warm water after handling carcasses.
- Clean and disinfect work surfaces and tools.
- Do not consume game with cysts on organs.