

2026
MUSKEGON COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER
TRAPPING RULES

1. TERM

- a. October 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **raccoon** as prescribed by State rules for Zone 3.
- b. October 15, 2026 to March 1, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **fox and coyote** as prescribed by State rules for Zone 3.
- c. November 1, 2026 to April 23, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **muskrat** as prescribed by State rules for Zone 3.
- d. November 10, 2026 to March 1, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **mink** as prescribed by State rules for Zone 3.
- e. November 1, 2026 to April 24 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **beaver** as prescribed by State rules for Unit C.
- f. November 10, 2026 to March 31, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **otter** as prescribed by State rules for Unit C.
- g. December 10, 2026 to December 20, 2027 with actual trapping permitted for **bobcat** as prescribed by State rules for Unit H.

2. REQUIREMENTS

- a. County permit
- b. Valid State trapping license
- c. Identification
- d. Compliance with MDNR and County (attached) rules and regulations
- e. Limited to Muskegon County residents
- f. **Submit a tally of all game taken at the end of the season**

3. GAME

Muskrat, mink, raccoon, fox, coyote, beaver, bobcat, and otter only, according to drawing

4. APPLICATIONS FOR TRAPPING DRAWING

- a. Please provide the following information:
 - Applicant's State trapping license number
 - Applicant's signature
 - List names, addresses, and phone numbers of the member(s) of party (not to exceed three besides applicant)

Put the application in an envelope and mail or deliver to:
Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center – Trapping
698 N. Maple Island Rd
Muskegon, MI 49442

- b. Application must be postmarked no later than October 1, 2026 for the 2026-2027 season.
- c. A drawing will be held for a permit to trap muskrat, mink, beaver and otter in each of two zones. Two fox/coyote/ raccoon permits will be drawn for the upland areas of the site

5. PERMIT ISSUANCE

- a. Successful applicant and party will be notified and shall appear as soon as possible after the drawing to obtain permit authorization.
- b. Identification - Each authorized trapper shall:
 - (1) Identify themselves and residence by a Michigan driver's license or other acceptable I.D.
 - (2) Exhibit applicable valid Michigan trapping license.
 - (3) Carry permit at all times when trapping on the project and produce same upon request by MDNR or County staff.
- c. Authorization - County staff will issue permits to each trapper and assign trapping areas.
Permits issued only after ALL party members have presented valid Trapping License.

6. CONTROL

- a. After permit is issued, trapper or party will be admitted to their general trapping area at all times during the above-delineated season.
- b. Limited Entry
Only trappers with official permits will be admitted or permitted to remain within the boundaries of the trapping sites.

GENERAL RULES

- 1. All trappers shall possess and exhibit a valid and applicable Michigan trapping license.
- 2. No littering shall be permitted.
- 3. An openly carried handgun with a maximum caliber of .22 will be allowed for the sole purpose of humanely dispatching entrapped animals. No exceptions of any kind will be allowed.
- 4. Trapper's permit shall be subject to inspection at all times by the County staff.
- 5. All trapping shall be subject to all applicable laws of the State of Michigan which shall be strictly enforced.
- 6. Any person who damages any of the County property shall be liable for such damage.
- 7. Violation of these rules by any trappers shall result in the immediate revocation of the permit issued, and a trapper shall be subject to expulsion from the area as a trespasser as well as prosecution for violating the same or other applicable laws.
- 8. Trapping shall be permitted only in the zone drawn for the trapper or party and by permit only. The general areas are located within the Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center as depicted on the attached maps.
- 9. The on-site Sheriff's Deputy shall be allowed to use small caliber firearms to dispatch nuisance animals that interfere with efficient treatment plant operation. No other employees or public are so authorized.
- 10. Vehicles must only travel on existing roadways, gravel, or two tracks.

CONDITIONS

Each trapper shall be liable for any injury or death to persons or damage to property. The County shall not be liable for the recklessness or carelessness of other trappers. Every person shall use reasonable care for his or her own safety.

The County does not represent or guarantee that any game taken from the Wastewater site is fit for human consumption or marketing. Each trapper should carefully examine the game for evidence of illness or disease in the same manner as game from other areas would be examined if used for human consumption or marketing.

The permit is granted for trapping purposes only.

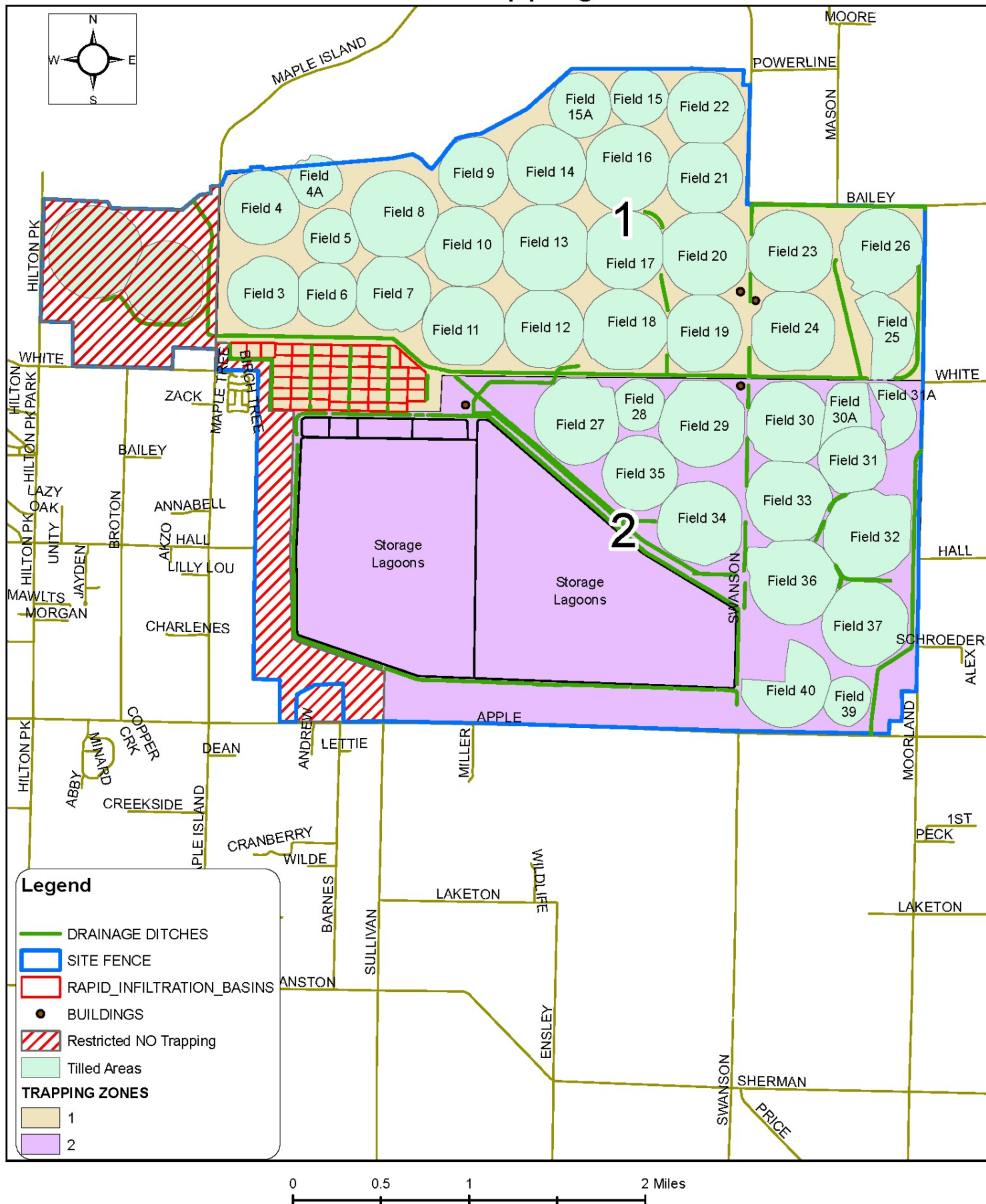
The County reserves the right to alter or amend these rules and regulations at any time if circumstances so require.

The County reserves the right to stop any or all trapping if there is a danger that a particular species is being over-trapped.

The County reserves the right to limit trapping in particular localized areas due to operations. The trapper may also be required to provide the location of any traps for the same reason.

Muskegon County Resource Recovery Center

Ditch Trapping 2026



Muskegon County Resource Recovery Trapping 2026

