



# Muskrat Study

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is collecting muskrat carcasses to examine pathogens and toxicants that may affect muskrat health and population abundance. If you trap muskrats and are interested in participating in this study, please see details below for collecting carcasses. Thank you!

1. Muskrat carcasses may be skinned or unskinned but must be frozen within 24 hours of harvest and include the entire body and head.
2. Trappers will need to keep carcasses frozen until KDFWR staff can coordinate pickup.
3. A carcass tag (included below) enclosed in a Ziplock bag must be attached to **each** muskrat carcass.
4. Trappers can print more carcass tags from fw.ky.gov, write the information on a piece of paper, or request carcass tags be mailed by emailing wildlifehealth@ky.gov.
5. Email wildlifehealth@ky.gov to coordinate carcass pickup.



## Muskrat Carcass Tag

**\*Complete all information, place in waterproof bag, and attach to carcass\***  
Email wildlifehealth@ky.gov to coordinate pickup.

Harvester Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date Harvested \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Harvest County \_\_\_\_\_ GPS Location \_\_\_\_\_

Address, Road Intersection, Water Body, etc. \_\_\_\_\_



Circle the land use surrounding the body of water where this muskrat was trapped:  
Natural/Undisturbed Habitat    Urban/Residential    Agricultural    Other: \_\_\_\_\_



How many years have you trapped muskrats on this water body? \_\_\_\_\_ years

Based on your observations, what do you feel the status of muskrats is in this water body?

Please circle:	Increased	Significantly Increased
	Decreased	Significantly Decreased
	Stable	No Opinion/Unknown