



Trapping regulations must be updated for public safety

Animal welfare group calling on province to add signage, notification requirements to regulations

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ALBERTA – Trapping regulations must be updated to protect the public, says The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (APFA) after a daschund was caught in a trap on a public trail.

The resident, who was with her children, noted in an interview that she had not been informed by her county or any nearby signage that traps were on the trail. The resulting veterinarian bill totalled nearly \$3,000.

“Too often, domestic pets can fall victim to these traps,” notes Adrian Nelson, APFA spokesperson. “This individual was with her children – who knows what would have happened had they stumbled across the trap first? It’s time to make trappers and municipalities accountable and transparent for their activities.”

The members of the Alberta legislature can easily amend existing regulations to add these simple, and potentially life-saving items:

- Signs must be posted when trapping is taking place on publicly accessible land;
- Municipalities must publicly inform all residents of trapping activities; and,
- Any non-target species caught in traps must be reported and submitted by trappers or municipalities for identification and necropsy.

“We would like to see an end to trapping in Alberta,” adds Nelson. “We know there are better solutions, truly humane solutions. But until that day comes, we must do what we can as responsible citizens to protect all those we care for – be they two-legged or four – from the hazards of dangerous traps.”

APFA has created a blog that contains a sample letter and contact information for concerned residents to use in contacting their MLAs at FurBearerDefenders.com.