

Application Form for First Catch Award Program

The purpose of this program is to provide individual recognition to beginning junior trappers. Each participant will submit a form documenting their first ever catch of a furbearer during a legal trapping season for furbearers in Virginia.

Upon submission of the appropriate information a sew-on/iron-on patch will be provided to the applicant. This patch (rocker) is an accompaniment to the already provided Trapper Education Patch earned by someone who successfully completes the Virginia Trappers Association Basic Trapper Training class.

Each patch shall document the first ever catch of a specific Virginia Furbearer by a youth trapper during the regular trapping season. There are eleven different patches available: otter, beaver, muskrat, mink, raccoon, opossum, skunk, coyote, red fox, gray fox, and bobcat. (Nutria is not included due to the small region of the state in which they are found.)

RULES

1. To participate an applicant must have taken the Basic Trapper Training Course within three calendar years of his/her first submission if under the age of eighteen. If eighteen years or older the applicant must have taken the Basic Trapper Training Course within two calendar years of his/her first submission.
2. For the purposes of this event, all years of participation are determined from the last day of the month of March of the furbearer trapping season year of entry submission. An applicant's age is measured from his/her actual age on November 15 of the furbearer trapping season. (If a submission is made during the 2020-2021 furbearer trapping season it is considered to be submitted March 31, 2021 and the applicant's age is considered to be that which it was on 15 November 2020.)
3. **All application submissions will be made on the form provided** and submitted to the individual's District Director who will forward the application to his Regional Training Coordinator. All applications must be received by the District Directors no later than **April 15** of the application year.
4. Regional Training Coordinators will evaluate the application and if approved, provide the award to the District Director, and forward the Application to the State Training Coordinator for file. District Directors will present the applicant with his or her award at an appropriate occasion.
5. The State Training Coordinator will advise the Web Master who will list the awardees on the appropriate web page. He will also keep an electronic file of all awardees for five years from the date of award.

6. All application submissions will be maintained by the VTA Training Coordinator for a period of three years for historical purposes.
REMEMBER: Junior applicant must be age 11 through 15 to apply for the award.

Highlight and print the following application:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

County: _____ District: _____ Training Region: _____

Date of Completion of Basic Trapper Training Course: _____

Location of Course: _____

If you cannot locate your date and location contact the State Training Coordinator for this information prior to submitting this form. See virginiatrappersassociation.org for contact information.

I am applying for the FIRST CATCH AWARD for the following animal(s):

Coyote _____ Red Fox _____ Gray Fox _____

Bobcat _____ Raccoon _____ Opossum _____

Otter: _____ Beaver: _____ Muskrat: _____

Mink: _____ Striped Skunk _____

I certify that this animal was caught by me with no physical help from another person and that this is the first time I have caught this type of animal in a steel live-catch foot hold trap, Conibear style trap, or snare (cage traps are not acceptable). I understand that while I may have had help in the decisions involved in trapping this animal the actual anchoring and physical making of the finished set was done by me.

Signed

Date

Signature of District Director
Coordinator

Signature of Regional Training

Patch issued to District Director for applicant:

Date Initials

Date form received by Training Coordinator: _____

Date entered into database: _____

Initials: _____

Training Coordinator
