

## **Repairing Equipment In-House**

Daniel Sherwood Fairfax County Health Department VMCA Annual Meeting January 28, 2020

# Why build a trap repair program?

- Are your traps getting older?
- Trap repair person vs. trap repair program?
- Who are you accountable to?
- What does it cost?
  - CDC Mini ~\$150
  - Replacement motor ~\$12
  - Repair at <10% of cost</p>
  - Economy of scale
- Traps are going to break



## In-House repair costs & benefits

- When to replace vs. when to repair
  - Replacement costs?
  - Service life of trap?
  - Program limitations?
- Quality assurance
  - Reduce trap fails
  - Extend service life
- In-house expertise
  - Troubleshooting
  - Turnaround time





## In-House repair costs & benefits

#### Time

- In-house vs. send out
- Warranties or contracts?
- Backorders in busy years
- 🤒 Transferable skill
  - Applies to more than traps
  - PM lab equipment
- Intrinsic value
  - Learning & problem-solving can be satisfying
  - Just plain cool





## Considerations

- Do you want to make any modifications?
  - What suits your program?
  - What didn't work last season?
- Do you have the necessary supplies?
  KEEP EVERYTHING!!!
  Call your sales reps.



## Considerations

- Can you build a trap from spare/new components?
  - One thing you shouldn't reuse
  - Keep stock of motors
- Do you have the necessary tools?
  - In-house repair frees up budget
  - You <u>need</u> the right tool for the right job



## Considerations

#### Do you have the time?

- Major repairs/PM/stress tests
- Do you have the time to reset failed traps?
- Have you practiced?
  - Allot time and resources to practice/experiment
  - Recognize previous repair efforts (good & bad)
  - Don't forget your PPE!





## **Repair Process**

- Get the easy repairs done first
- Troubleshooting supplies
  - Charged battery
  - Quality multimeter
- Teardown/rebuild one trap type at a time
  - Create an assembly line (great for training)
  - Check your work
- Revel in your own magnificent accomplishment



#traprepair #bossmoves

# **Repair Objectives**

## Repair whole trap?

#### Pros

- No need to trouble shoot
- Like new when its finished
- Eliminates Faulty equipment

### Cons

- Time consuming
- Requires spare parts and more tools

#### Repair faulty component?

#### Pros

- Rapidly deployable
- Often simple fixes = less time consuming

#### Cons

- Must trouble shoot
- Might fail again (at repair point or somewhere else)

## Trap Repair – Gravid Flowchart



## Trap Repair – CDC Flowchart



## Freebies – Start simple



# Freebies – Be creative & build gradually







## Freebies – Keep a clean workspace



## Freebies – Soldering

Create a hot iron reminder

- Turn off/unplug when not in use
- Correct iron for the job



# Freebies – Soldering



# Freebies – Soldering

Soldering iron stand with solder sponge



## Resources

## Tools

- https://wrenchguru.com/
- https://www.kmstools.com/blog/
- https://www.wonkeedonkeetools.co.uk/
- http://www.technologystudent.com/equip1/equipex1.htm

## Soldering

- http://www.paceusa.com/pacenter/videos
- https://www.weller-tools.com/how-to-use-soldering-iron/
- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT5e-XjqHPfA3\_9wF3CgY1w

Where else can you turn for help?

## **Final Thoughts**

"Any way you slice it, a trap fail is lost data or lost resources. Doing good trap repair can save both in the long run." – Not a quote by Bob Villa