

Cat Control Procedures

Cat trapping procedure is as follows:

1. Emerald Isle citizen contacts EI Town Hall to request to borrow a Town cat trap. Citizen visits Town Hall to sign out the trap and takes it back to their home and sets the trap.
2. Emerald Isle Town staff contacts Carteret County Animal Control via email or telephone to advise Animal Control that a trap has been loaned to PERSON'S NAME at PERSON'S ADDRESS in Emerald Isle.
3. Carteret County Animal Control staff will visit the location(s) in Emerald Isle on a daily basis (weekdays only) to check to see if a trap is properly baited or if a cat has been trapped. Carteret County Animal Control will either make sure the trap is properly baited (if no cat is trapped) or will collect any trapped cat.
4. If the Carteret County Animal Control staff actually collects a cat, they will leave a written confirmation to let the person know that a cat has been collected.
5. Animal Control will carry captured cats to the Animal Shelter on Hibbs Road. Animal Control will dispose of other animals trapped in the most appropriate manner.
6. On Fridays, if no cat has been trapped, Animal Control will disengage the trap and will reset it on Monday. This procedure is to insure that an animal does not remain trapped without food or shelter over a weekend.
7. After the citizen no longer has a need for the trap, the citizen is responsible for returning the trap to Emerald Isle Town Hall. Town Hall staff will contact Carteret County Animal Control via email or telephone to inform them that the trap is no longer deployed in the field at that location. The maximum borrow time for a trap is 1 week. A citizen will be able to re-borrow a trap by contacting Town Hall staff. Town Hall staff will make it a practice to call any citizen that has not returned a trap within one week to inquire about the continuing need for the trap, and will advise Carteret County Animal Control as appropriate.

Please read below for all other wild animals that are a nuisance in your neighborhood:

Wild animals abound on most barrier islands, and Emerald Isle is no exception. We are home to raccoons, opossums, foxes, squirrels, deer and an occasional bear and alligator. We do not have an animal control officer. The Town has traps available for cats only should you need to borrow the Town traps.

Property owners are advised to make arrangements with a private wildlife removal service for any animals they may capture other than cats either with our traps or without our traps - (raccoons, possums, foxes, nutria, etc). Wild animals of any type should not be released in Emerald Isle Woods Park. They should also not be released in Croatan National Forest.

The Town does not provide any small animal removal services for nutria, raccoons, possums, foxes, etc., however, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission recommends the use of authorized Wildlife Damage Control Agents as described at this

website: <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Trapping/WildlifeDamageControlAgent.aspx>

Click here for a listing of authorized Wildlife Damage Control Agents for **Carteret County**.

Pricing varies for the trapping and removal of nutria, and can range from \$150 - \$300, depending on the severity of the problem.

Property owners can also contact Robbie Norville, Coastal Supervising Wildlife Biologist for the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, for information about nutria. He can be contacted at 252-523-8540 or robbie.norville@ncwildlife.org