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Wisconsin Mentored Trappers

In Wisconsin it is illegal for anyone to set traps unless they have either been "Grandfathered" in, are trapping on their own property or have passed a Trapper Education Class.

There is an "age gap" between the time that our youth become interested in trapping and the age that they are capable of passing the trapping class.

Many adults have already been taking their young relatives on the trap line, teaching them the basics and fundamentals of trapping even though it is technically illegal.

Those young trappers that have obtained a basic background in trapping before they enroll in Trapper Education are more likely to absorb the vital messages of ethics, conservation, safety and respect.

The only way to keep these young trappers excited about trapping is to allow them to legally set traps under the supervision of an adult Mentor that has passed a Trappers Education Class. This will allow them to legally experience setting traps and the excitement of the following trap check.

Therefore be it resolved: that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to create a Mentored Trapping license to actively recruit and retain those trappers that, for one reason or another, have not successfully completed a Trappers Education Class.

Mentored trappers would not be eligible for limited draw permits.

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