

Ethics and Humaneness

Ethics: a set of moral principles or values Humaneness: Compassionate, benevolent

Dictionary definitions aside, treating wildlife and wildlife habitat is more than principles or moral behavior. It is knowing and understanding wildlife populations and how they interact with their habitat. Knowing what good habitat is and working to make it better whenever possible. It is respecting landowners, other trappers, and other persons who might be effected by a trappers activities.

Ethical behavior is working with Biologists for the benefit of the long term survival of all species. It is considering the welfare of populations as well as the individual animal. It is giving harvest reports so good decisions can be made regarding animal populations. It is refusing to accept non ethical behavior by other persons including other trappers. It is continually working to find and use the best and most humane harvest methods available.

Ethical behavior is educating various publics of the intrinsic value of all wildlife and the importance of quality habitat. It is also educating people of the essential necessity of trapping as a wildlife management tool. It could be said Trappers, Biologists, and Conservation Officers are the three legged stool of furbearer health and wellbeing.