Solving Human-Beaver Conflicts

What’s Legal?

- Dam Breaching
- Water Control Devices
- Trapping

Beaver Can Be Trapped

- with box or cage traps during the regular beaver-trapping season (Nov. 15 – Feb 28)
- with box or cage traps by a problem animal control operator with permission of DFW
- with box, cage, or Conibear traps in cases of declared threats to public health or safety
- with Conibear traps if box and cage traps or alternative measures like water flow devices have been tried for 15 days

Trapping must be done by a licensed trapper.

The Law & Regulations

MGL Chapter 131 Section 80A (included in green guide)
321 CMR 2.08 (changes being made – MSPCA will send to you)

About trapping and what can be done about beavers in cases of public health and safety threats

MGL Chapter 131 Section 40
310 CMR 10.00 These regulations can be found on-line at:
http://www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/ww/wwpubs.htm#stareg

About changes to wetlands, including dam breaching and installation of water flow devices

Laws can be found on-line at http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm
Regulations can be purchased at the State House Bookstore, telephone 617-722-2000

For further information about the law, contact Joan Dempsey or Kara Holmquist, Department of Advocacy, MSPCA, 617-522-7400 or at jdempsey@mspca.org or kholmquist@mspca.org