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Williston Residents Search for Red Fox Dragging Leghold Trap Protect Our Wildlife Urges Residents to Help Save the Fox

Williston, *Vermont* – On Saturday morning, May 9th, a resident of Williston spotted a red fox in her yard struggling with a leghold trap attached to her leg. The fox will not be able to survive with the metal trap attached to her leg and if she is a mother with kits, they will not survive without her. Williston residents and Protect Our Wildlife have notified the game warden. "It is our hope that the warden will be able to capture the injured fox safely and have the injuries assessed by a veterinarian," shared Peggy Larson, Williston resident and retired veterinarian. "Unless the fox can be captured, it will be a long painful death, especially once infection kicks in."

The official fox trapping season ended on 12/31, so unless this person is trapping in defense of property under the dangerously broad statute, title 10 V.S.A. §4828, the person may be breaking the law.

Protect Our Wildlife asks the public to immediately contact the warden, Jeremy Schmid, if they see the fox at 802-595-4815. POW is offering a \$300 reward to the person who can successfully identify the party responsible for setting this trap, since this trap may have been set illegally. All leads will be communicated to law enforcement.

The fox in this photo was trapped in Hyde Park in May a few years ago and was captured by the game warden and euthanized due to severe injuries to her leg. The person who set the trap was never charged.



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