

# BLUE CRAB FISHING

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## Legal Blue Crab Capture Methods:

- Scoop Net, Hand Line, Dip Net, Trot Line
- Star Crab Trap (or similar device)
- Circular Topless Trap (not exceeding 26" in diameter)
- Semi-Circular Cylindrical Trap (12" or less in diameter)



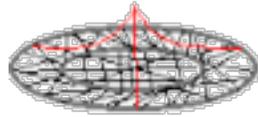
*To be legal in Connecticut...the trap must be manually operated (the crab cannot become trapped inside a crab pot or trap without the action of the crabber)*



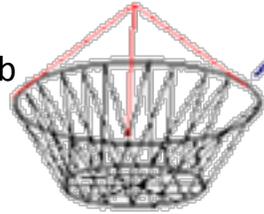
Crab Net with larger holes – easier to remove crab

### How a circular/ring crab net works

Forms a wall when being pulled up & surrounds crab



Trap lying flat with bait



Trap being pulled up



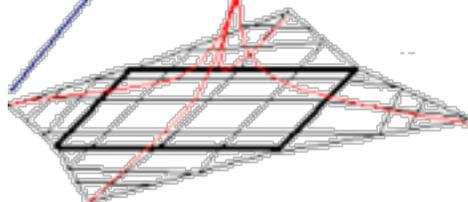
Wire mesh crab trap

### How a star crab trap works

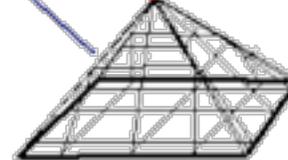
Line tied to each edge/corner

Ring that gathers the 4 lines

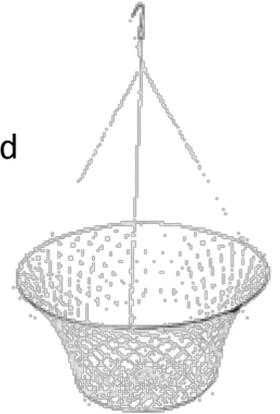
Sides snap up to form a pyramid



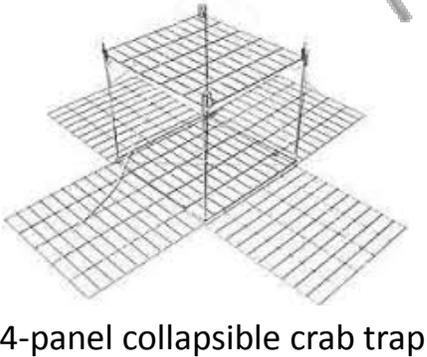
Trap lying flat on the bottom



Trap being pulled up



Cotton mesh crab trap



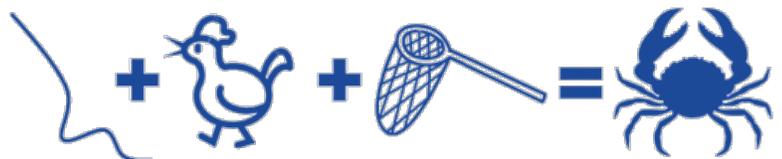
4-panel collapsible crab trap

**Required:** All devices must be attended at all times.

**Open Season:** May 1–November 30.

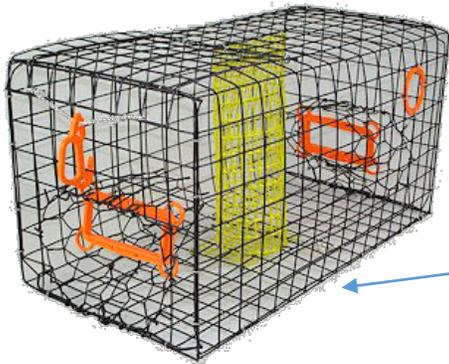
**Minimum Shell Width:** (Spike Tip to Spike Tip)

- 5" hard shell crabs
- 3½" soft shell crabs

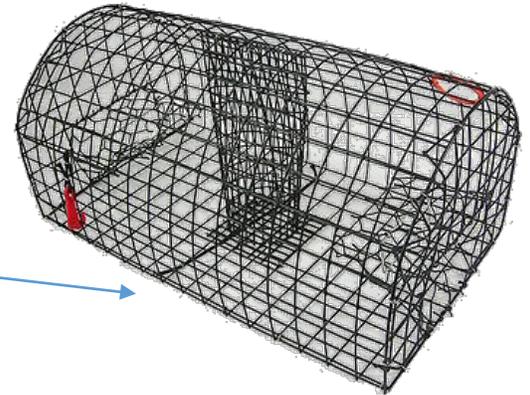


# Prohibited:

- Possession of uncooked blue crab meat without the body shell attached.
- Possession of more than 2 claws per body.
- Possession of egg bearing females.
- Chesapeake/Maryland-style crab pot/traps.



**Illegal in Connecticut  
Chesapeake/Maryland  
Style Crab Pots/Traps**



**Egg Bearing Female Blue Crab**

