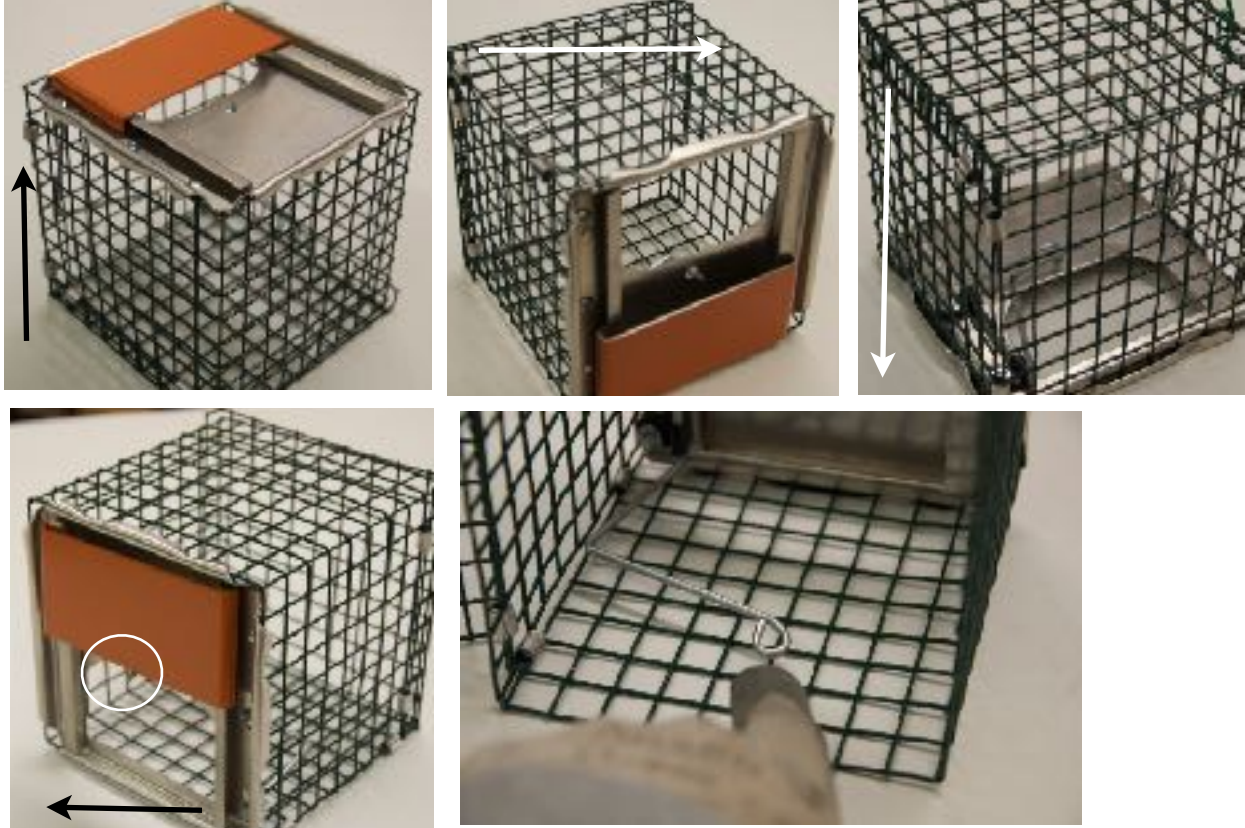


Universal Sparrow Trap-Oval



The Universal Sparrow Trap will catch House Sparrows and Starlings but you may also inadvertently catch non targeted birds such as Blue Birds, Tree Swallows or Purple Martins so it is extremely important that you are responsible in the operation of this trap. Never leave the trap unchecked for longer than 1/2 hour. The best time to capture House Sparrows-Starlings is on a warm sunny morning, in late winter and early spring.

To set the trap. To set the UST-Oval, you will need to rotate the trap in 360° circle. The trip wire is designed NOT to fall out of the small hole that is on the face plate of the trap. The bird enters the trap and bumps the wire (see photo with pointing finger). The oval hole works best with most crescent openings. The trap should be inserted onto the nesting chamber behind the crescent hole. Wait no more than 1/2 hour and check your trap. (**TIP!** I use a wind up kitchen timer and set it for 1/2 hour and keep it with me. When the timer rings I go check my trap.) Identify the trapped bird, using a field guide. Only non native birds; the English House Sparrow and European Starling may be disposed of.



European Starling



House Sparrow

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What to do with trapped birds. Once you have identified the captured bird as either a Starling or House sparrow, you have a decision of what to do with it. Some people choose to kill the birds, others transport them 10 to 20 miles away and release them. This latter option really serves no purpose other than to waste fuel. Starlings and House Sparrows have great homing ability and will fly right back to your yard in a matter of hours. Releasing trapped birds in someone else's neighborhood just passes the problem on to their yards. Should you decide to kill the birds, you have several options. You can place them in a plastic bag, and spray ether into the bag; you can place them in a plastic garbage bag, then fill the bag with exhaust from a car; you can place them in your fist and squeeze their rib cage tightly (front to back) for 60 seconds preventing their breathing; you can wring their necks; or you can leave them in the UST and submerge the whole unit with bird in a bucket of water.

Watersesdge House shown with trap inserted (left) and when the trap is tripped, right.

