

Obey the Law. Catch the Crabs. Save the Turtles.

Use Turtle Reduction Devices (TRD) It's the Law*



The diamondback terrapin is Maryland's state reptile, our state university mascot, and the only turtle that lives its entire life in the brackish tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

The TRD is easy to install and allows crabs to enter the pot but prevents most diamondback terrapins from entering. **Turtles and other animals that enter crab pots without a TRD cannot escape from the pot and will drown.**

In Maryland, the TRD opening must be no larger than 1.75" x 4.75".

Crab pots used by waterfront property owners in Maryland must be:

1. Fitted with a Turtle Reduction Device (TRD) in **every** entry funnel.
2. Marked with the owner's name and address or DNRid.

(a free DNRid can be obtained at compass.
dnr.maryland.gov)

Learn more:

View the department's turtle reduction device video
visit: <https://youtu.be/IJdHdwikFLU>



* COMAR 08.02.03.07



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue, B-2
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8300 | 800-688-3467

dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries

10/2019