



Landowner FAQ: Can I relocate live beavers?

The short answer: No!

The longer answer: Unfortunately, laws in the Mid-Atlantic states do not allow relocation of live beavers. Relocation is both costly and logistically challenging, even in places that allow it.

Some of those challenges include:

- Families of beavers must be trapped and moved together
- Need for an appropriate facility to house the animals in between capture and release
- Need for an appropriate release site with good quality habitat and no existing beavers present
- Live trapping can only be done certain times of the year
- Risk of simply moving the 'problem' from one place to another, especially in more heavily developed areas
- Risk of disease transmission
- Need for a substantial amount of labor and coordination across multiple partners and stakeholders
- Extremely limited funding

Moving live beavers without considering these factors is irresponsible and illegal in many places.

Consider coexistence:

We can often help land managers address concerns with tree damage and/or flooding with nonlethal management strategies. Please visit coexistwithbeavers.org for more information or send an email to azake@coexistwithbeavers.org.