Hiring an Indian Myna Trap

1. The resident must reside and operate the trap within the Camden Council LGA.

2. If a trap is not available the resident will be put on a wait list and contacted when available.

3. At the time of loaning, the resident shall complete the ‘Indian Myna Bird Trap Loan’ form including credit card information (only to be used if trap is not returned).

4. Traps will be loaned for a 2 week period with an optional 1 week extension if the resident has not trapped all birds on their property.

5. The resident shall record the number of captures and return the record sheet to Council.

6. Traps will be returned to Council in clean, good working order.

7. In the event that the trap is not returned or is returned damaged, the resident shall be liable for any repair or replacement costs incurred by Council.

8. By loaning this trap the resident accepts full liability for any personal injury incurred during the operation of the Indian Myna Bird Trap.

Trapping Procedure

1. The target species for trapping is the Common Indian Myna (Acridotheres tristis). Refer to fact sheet ‘Indian Myna Birds’ for species identification.

2. After dusk, position trap in a location where Indian Mynas normally feed. Use a quiet spot that will allow birds to approach the trap without interruption, avoid placing under trees.

3. Sprinkle dried dog food at trap entrance(s) and inside the trap as bait. Do not use seed-based foods as this can attract native birds.

4. Fill water bowl with water and remove any other food or water sources (dog bowls, bird baths). The trap is to contain food and clean water at all times.

5. Do not approach the trap until after dusk the following day. Indian Mynas are very smart and will become suspicious of the trap if you are approach or re-bait it during the day.

6. Indian Myna Birds shall be euthanized daily, using only the methods outlined below.

7. Any non-target species caught in traps (not Indian Mynas) must be released immediately.

8. If Indian Mynas are not caught within 1 week, move the trap to another location.

9. Always wear gloves-long sleeves and wash your hands after handling the trap or birds.

10. Clean the trap with a garden hose before returning to Council with Trap Record Sheet.
**Euthanizing Trapped Birds**

The aim of euthanasia is to minimise or eliminate the stress birds will experience prior to becoming unconscious. Trap operators must be willing to accept that humane killing of Indian Myna Birds is an important responsibility.

- Indian Myna Birds shall be the only species destroyed. All other species caught in traps must be released immediately.

- Council will not collect, euthanize or dispose of trapped target species. The resident is responsible for the humane euthanasia and correct disposal of the euthanized birds.

- Trapped birds are not to be treated cruelly or with harsh conditions, the requirements of the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* shall be observed at all times.

- Methods of euthanasia used must be in line with NSW Department of Primary Industries and the GEN001: Methods of Euthanasia Standard Operating Procedure (Invasive Animals CRC) as described below.

**Cervical dislocation (breaking neck)**

Cervical dislocation is a very quick and humane method of euthanasia. The neck can be broken by taking the birds legs in the left hand (if right handed) and the head between the first two fingers of the right hand with the thumb under the beak. A sharp jerk with each hand, pulling the head backwards over the neck aims to herniate the brain stem and may break the spinal cord and carotid arteries. Violent muscular contraction can occur after cervical dislocation.

**Inhalation of carbon dioxide (CO2)**

Indian Mynas are placed in a container (or plastic bag sealed around the trap) and put to sleep with a small dose of CO2. The container is sealed for three minutes to retain the gas and the Mynas die quickly without stress. CO2 can be administered using a CO2 cannister or vehicle that does not have a catalytic converter. Most cars built within the last 20-25 years have catalytic converters.

**Qualified veterinarian**

A list of veterinarians that participate in the Indian Myna Trapping Program by assisting with euthanasia of birds can be obtained from Camden Council. Residents should contact their chosen vet when they bring their trap home, prior to catching any Indian Mynas. Some vets prefer to have traps dropped off and picked up at an agreed time and the resident is responsible for making these arrangements.

**Disposal of Euthanized Birds**

Euthanized birds shall be double bagged and disposed of in the resident’s general waste bin or donated for research to the University of Sydney’s Avian Reptile and Exotic Pet Hospital Camden (415 Werombi Road, Brownlow Hill).

**Further Information**

For further information see Council’s website [www.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au) or contact the Natural Resource Officer on 4654 7777.