



Discover the Difference

Field Care of your Turkey for the Taxidermist

Getting Ready for your Taxidermist this Turkey Season

You never know when the next animal you harvest will be the one you want to take to a taxidermist. It is very important that you are always prepared and have the knowledge needed to get a quality mount. Here are some helpful hints during turkey season.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR TURKEY SEASON



1. Three important things to take with you on your turkey hunt other than your calls is a camera, burlap sack and a cooler.

2. When you harvest your turkey always keep mind that you may want this mounted. Handle carefully. One of the most important things not to do is gut it. Your meat will hold for up to 4 hours if your bird is kept cool and dry. Gutting your bird will only prevent your taxidermist from giving you a quality mount. Tell your taxidermist if you want your meat back or not.

3. Handle your turkey with extreme care. Carry a burlap sack with you in the woods. Place the bird in the sack and roll tight. Be very careful not to bend the tail feathers. This will help keep the feathers from bending.

Then place your bird in your turkey vest or just carry it out. The burlap sack will help cool the bird down slowly while still allowing the birds skin to breathe. This method will prevent bacteria from growing and ruining your bird.

Nature's Canvas Taxidermy

Thompson , OH 44086

440-298-1393

1-866-NCANVAS

Bruce@naturescanvas.net



Discover the Difference

4. Take your bird to your taxidermist. If you cannot get to your taxidermist soon, place your bird that is in your burlap sack into your cooler. By bagged ice and place one bag under your bird and one on top. This should keep your bird dry and cool for hours. If it will be days or weeks before you can get to your taxidermist freeze the bird whole as soon as possible in the burlap sack.

5. There are a number of different methods the taxidermist uses to mount birds. There are also a number of important decisions you need to make. One of the most important is whether you want a freeze dried head or a artificial one. There is a cost difference. Another is how you want it mounted. On a limb gobbling, walking, strutting, flying and countless more positions. Discuss all options with your taxidermist. Remember this is a big bird when mounted, choose your mount to fit your home.

6. Biggest problem I have seen in the past in handling turkeys. The birds are placed in the back of pickup trucks with tonneau covers on hot days. This will start causing decay in the birds very quickly. One customer brought in a bird last year within hours of his hunt and the beard pulled right off. Don't let this happen to you!!!

Sincerely,

Bruce Leichtman

This article featured on <http://www.huntingohio.com/>

Nature's Canvas Taxidermy

Thompson , OH 44086

440-298-1393

1-866-NCANVAS

Bruce@naturescanvas.net