The key to this method of installing a trap is to the tree canopy. In the following series of photographs a method is described for forming a lifting ring which will be used to lift traps located in the tree canopy. The lifting ring is formed from a round, plain steel rod. The rod measures 1/8 inch wide by 12 inches long. In the following series of photographs a hook is formed from the same rod.

The CMMCP uses the 35' model. This length enables the trapper to reach and hook onto tree branches above 25 feet. The traps' power cord is connected to the battery terminals. A catch container is attached to the trap. While red hot the rod is quickly wrapped around an appropriate sized object. In this case a 3 inch diameter wrench socket clamped in a vise. As the rod is wrapped around the wrench socket the ends are compressed.

Two 2-pronged coat hooks are attached to the end by multiple wraps of electric tape. The hooks mentioned above are homemade from round, plain, steel rod. The hook is positioned above the targeted branch. The telescoping pole is held upright directly under the targeted tree branch. The hook is hung from the coat hook basket by the lifting ring. A second series of photographs depicts that process.

A 1.5 inch split key ring is put through the eye of the hook as well as a 1.25 inch swivel eye pulley. A 1/4 inch rope is run through the pulley throat. The ends of the rope are tied together. Then the pole is retracted section by section. The hook drops into place over the branch as the basket lowers. The mouth of the hook should be 5 inches wide and the shank 8 inches long. In this photo the two areas of the hook are demarcated by the pliers.

The two steel rods used to make the hook and lifting ring. The two steel rods are heated in a furnace made from excess plates, steel rod. The end of each segment becomes a tab which aligns closely with the other. The finished lifting ring is 3 inches in diameter and has two 1 inch long tabs. The ring is perpendicular to the shank of the hook.

The photograph above shows the hook and lifting ring fully formed. The next step is to weld the two pieces together. The weld is made where the two tabs of the lifting ring align with the shank of the hook. While holding the hook shank with two pronged coat hooks the joint is formed into a hook an eye must be formed at the end of the shank back on itself so that there is no gap. After one end of the 16 inch rod has been formed into a hook an eye must be formed at the end of the rod.

To form the eye the rod is heated again until red hot. A second pair of pliers is used to bend the end of the shank back on itself so that there is no gap. Then bolt the plates together with four 2.5 inch round head stove bolts. A second 1.5 inch split key ring is run through the eye of the rod back and onto the ring by the swivel eye bolt snap hook. A trap which has had a split key ring and metal eye bolt snap hook added to the lid, is attached to the trap. The trap power cord is connected to the battery terminals.

While red hot the rod is quickly wrapped around an appropriate sized object. In this case a 3 inch diameter wrench socket clamped in a vise.

The ring is perpendicular to the shank of the hook. The mouth of the hook should be 5 inches wide and the shank 8 inches long. In this photo the two areas of the hook are demarcated by the pliers.

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