



Fur Farming in North America

- About **half the furs produced in North America come from small, family-run farms** while the rest are trapped in the wild. Mink are the most commonly farmed, with smaller quantities of fox and chinchilla.

- Fur farming provides important **employment for rural communities** at a time when many forms of agriculture are difficult for small operations.

- Fur farming **completes the agricultural production cycle**. As carnivores, mink and fox eat left-overs from our own food production, such as parts of pigs, chicken and fish that we do not eat. Manure, bedding and carcasses are composted to produce organic fertilizers to replenish the soil. Carcasses are also used to produce bio-fuel, and mink fat produces oil used to condition leather, in cosmetics, and as a fine lubricant. **Nothing is wasted.**

- Farmed furbearers are **domesticated animals**. Mink have been farmed for over 150 years, are much larger and more docile than wild mink, and have been bred in a wide range of colors. Fox farming began in the 1880s. Like mink, farmed fox are larger and more docile than wild fox, and have been bred in many colors.

- North American farms produce the world's finest fur by providing **excellent nutrition and care**. This is assured by national codes of practice based on years of scientific research.



