

LHRA Deer Management

Scott Petersen, #28

Committee Chair

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Why Manage the Deer Population with Hunting

- An over-abundant deer population
 - Severely compromises the forest habitat leaving vegetation and other wildlife vulnerable
 - Can lead to rampant disease, starvation and suffering
 - Increases risk of lyme disease transmission to humans
 - Attracts unwanted predators (e.g., Coyotes)
 - Contributes to increase in dangerous and costly vehicle collisions
- Hunting is the most common and effective way to manage the population at healthy levels
 - Even suburbs of Washington DC allow archery hunting to maintain a healthy balance
 - Archery hunting from an elevated position is one of the safest forms
 - Archery hunters rarely take shots longer than 20 yards, and when elevated, arrows that miss do not travel beyond that distance
 - While non-lethal wounds can happen, most archery hunters ensure they have skills to prevent that
 - Responsible archery hunters follow the 4C's: courteous, considerate, capable, and careful

LHRA Deer Management Basics

- Rules and Regulations Governing Section 18 of the LHRA Covenants Revised, July 12, 2007 to allow controlled archery hunting
 - Property owners and family members are allowed to hunt during Ohio archery season, normally late Sep to early Feb, excluding holidays
 - Must be from an elevated position (i.e., tree stand)
 - Please report intention to trustee designee, Scott Petersen
 - In 2021-22 season, about half of properties believed to allow hunting (only one registered non-residents), but this has been declining
 - Guests allowed, but **must be registered (annually) and complete background checks (one-time)**
 - Reporting of deer harvesting required to determine necessary changes
 - Map showing properties allowing hunting posted at mailboxes
 - Owners required to notify neighbors and pre-coordinate retrieval on adjacent properties

LHRA Deer Management Basics (cont'd)

- Ohio Law Section 1533.03 | Prevention of authorized hunting, trapping, or fishing prohibited.
 - (A) No person shall purposely prevent or attempt to prevent any person from hunting, trapping, or fishing for a wild animal as authorized by this chapter by any of the following means:
 - (1) Placing oneself in a location in which he knows or should know that his presence may affect the behavior of the wild animal being hunted, trapped, or fished for or otherwise affect the feasibility of the taking of the wild animal by the hunter, trapper, or fisherman;
 - (2) Creating a visual, aural, olfactory, or physical stimulus intended to affect the behavior of the wild animal being hunted, trapped, or fished for;
 - (3) Affecting the condition or location of personal property intended for use in the hunting, trapping, or fishing activity.
- Bottom Line: The LHRA deer population currently seems healthy and not overabundant, so this controlled approach seems to have been successful, but requires coordination