



Brad Loveless, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: City of Olathe Urban Deer Hunting Applicants
Paul Krueger
Olathe Parks & Rec
City of Olathe

From: Andrew Friesen
District Wildlife Biologist

Subject: Urban Deer Management Program
Richard Davis – Owner
Clint Barnes - Hunter
15600 US 169 HWY
Olathe, KS 66061

Date: February 1, 2024

Due the prolific nature of White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and their potential destructive habit of feeding on plants and woody vegetation, it is essential that measures be taken to keep the abundance of this species in check. This is of specific concern in urban settings where the requirements of the deer, such as food, cover, and shelter, are readily met and where there are very few natural predators to keep the populations in balance. Therefore, it is well within the biological framework to allow regulated hunting seasons for deer to help maintain their environmental carrying capacity. By taking proactive measures to control the deer herd populations we will reduce the occurrence of deer vehicle related accidents as well as decrease the damaging effects they can cause to ornamental and natural foliage.

Based upon my knowledge of your properties, it is my contention that an urban deer management plan would be appropriate for your situation on an annual basis.

However, a supplemental requirement must be adhered to in addition to the City of Olathe Urban Deer Ordinance. Due to the wide spread, rapid movement of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) throughout the United States, it is imperative that deer be tested for this debilitating disease. CWD testing is of particular importance on "Urban Deer" that have not been traditionally harvested. Therefore, participation in the Olathe Urban Deer Program will require that **ALL** deer harvested be submitted to Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) for CWD testing. This stipulation will serve several purposes:

- 1st – Help ensure a healthy deer population by assisting KDWP biologist in obtaining required samples for testing from the Kansas City District.
- 2nd – Provide a proactive means of addressing a potentially devastating deer disease, one that could potentially put the future of deer hunting in jeopardy.
- 3rd – Provide an accurate means of assessing the age structure of the Urban deer herd based on analysis of tooth wear patterns.

- 4th – Encourages doe harvest which reinforces the focus of the program, Urban Deer population control and not trophy hunting.
- 5th – Provide KDWPPT staff with a more accurate number of deer actually harvested through this program, and will assist in evaluation of the effectiveness of this management practice.
- 6th – Put more responsibility on the individual hunters to properly tag, process, and submit samples for testing from their harvested deer.

Failure to submit deer head samples from ALL deer harvested within the Olathe Urban Deer Program will be viewed as a violation of this agreement and special hunting privilege, and will result in termination of this program on the violating property.

The specific procedure for specimen collection will be as follows. Upon successful harvest of a deer, the hunter will immediately tag the deer with their KDWPPT issued permit and proceed with field dressing techniques. Once completed the hunter will cut the head off the deer, leaving a substantial neck section attached to the head. The specimen will need to be **directly** deposited in the drop barrel located **behind** the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism office located at **8304 Hedge Lane Terrace, Shawnee Kansas 66227** or make other arrangements for sample delivery. Additional instructions relative to proper identification and tracking procedures will be located on the drop barrel. **It is crucial that only deer harvested with exact location identification be submitted for testing to ensure prompt and accurate responses if any positive tests should be detected. DO NOT SUBMIT SAMPLES LACKING SPECIFIC KILL SITE LOCATION.** Subsequent processing of the meat will be the responsibility of the individual hunter.

I Andrew Friesen 7/15/24 (signature and date) realize my position as a sportsman and conservationist to assist the Kansas Dept of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism in this collection. I will faithfully abide by this request as a contingency of the Olathe Urban Deer Program and realize that **failure to submit deer head samples will result in termination of this effective deer management program.**

In the case of circumstances where selected individuals are acting on behalf of other hunters to obtain hunting locations and opportunities, it will be necessary for each individual hunter to read and sign this agreement before issuance of the City Permit will be granted. Each individual hunter is responsible for submitting samples to KDWPT for CWD testing.

The take home message of this is "Don't shoot a deer that you are not willing to cut the head off of and submit for CWD testing."

I truly appreciate your willingness and cooperation in this matter, and if you have any questions, please contact me at 913-422-1314 Ext 110.

Sincerely,

Andrew Friesen
District Wildlife Biologist
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
8304 Hedge Lane Terrace
Shawnee, KS 66227