



# **KENNEBECASIS VALLEY DEER MANAGEMENT**

## **2016 KV Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program**

- 56 landowners were approved to receive permits
- In total, 199 permits were offered.
- 147 permits were issued to hunters.
- A total of 69 deer were harvested under nuisance permits within the towns of Quispamsis, Rothesay and Hampton.

# KV NUISANCE DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT PROGRAM (NDMAP)

<b>KV NDMAP</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
# Properties	56	66	58
# Acres	1383	1736	1087
# Permits	199	265	266
# Hunters	147	223	187
# Deer	69	95	103
Hunter Success Rate	47%	42%	55%
# Roadkills	182	223	222

### 2014 KV NUISANCE DEER MANAGEMENT PROJECT

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>APPS</b>	<b>PROPERTIES</b>	<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>HUNTERS</b>	<b>DEER</b>
Hampton	41	20	71	52	28
Quispamsis	48	31	174	126	68
Rothesay	22	7	20	9	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>103</b>

### 2015 Kennebecasis Valley NDMAP

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>APPS</b>	<b>APPROVED PROPERTIES</b>	<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>HUNTERS</b>	<b>DEER</b>
Hampton	23	21	68	58	26
Quispamsis	47	39	177	148	61
Rothesay	8	6	19	18	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>95</b>

### 2016 Kennebecasis Valley NDMAP

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>APPS</b>	<b>APPROVED PROPERTIES</b>	<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>HUNTERS</b>	<b>DEER</b>
Hampton	38	17	53	37	23
Quispamsis	20	30	116	86	36
Rothesay	17	9	30	24	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>69</b>

## Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program

- Designed to allow landowners to remove nuisance deer from their property.
- Special permits allow hunters to remove only one antlerless deer during the regular deer hunting season.
- Hunters are chosen and approved by the landowner.
- Hunting is NOT allowed within 100 meters of neighboring homes.
- With the landowners approval, archery hunters may hunt within 100 meters of the landowners home.
- Properties are assessed by DNR for safety concerns.



## Kennebecasis Valley Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program

### 2017 FACT SHEET

- What?** The Nuisance Deer Management Assistance Program (NDMAP) will allow landowners within the Kennebecasis Valley area to receive special permits authorizing hunters to harvest ONE antlerless deer on their property. The permits are issued to hunters chosen by the landowner to harvest deer on their property. Permits will be provided to harvest only antlerless deer, as removal of those deer will have the greatest effect on controlling local populations. The number of available permits will be determined by the Department of Energy and Resource Development (ERD) on a case-by-case basis.
- When?** NDMAPs will be valid for use by hunters only during the legal deer hunting season (October 2 – November 18, 2017). **Application dates are September 5 to October 31, 2017.**
- Why?** Deer numbers have increased in the Kennebecasis Valley area since the mid-2000's and have become a significant nuisance to the local communities. ERD is working cooperatively with the Towns of Rothesay, Quispamsis, Hampton and local communities to lower the deer numbers in a manner that is safe, effective and acceptable to most residents. Allowing hunters to harvest extra deer from this area is an efficient approach to address the issue while allowing public benefit of the resource.

#### HOW TO APPLY FOR A NUISANCE DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PERMIT:

- STEP 1** **Contact your local Town Office to express your interest in obtaining a NDMAP permit** - Property Identification Numbers (PIDs) are required to apply, and will be submitted to ERD for assessment.
- STEP 2** **Site Assessment** – Properties greater than 1 acre with potential for NDMAP permits may receive a site visit by ERD staff to assess for any potential safety concerns and the number of permits to be issued. Hunting will NOT be allowed within 100 meters of neighboring houses. Discharge distances for archery may be reduced from the landowners dwelling, with the landowner's permission.
- STEP 3** **Approval** – Qualifying landowners will receive notification from ERD of the number of permits that will be issued for their property (PID) and any restrictions that may be applied.
- STEP 4** **Selection of Hunters** – Most landowners desire some control over who accesses their property. It will be the responsibility of the landowner to select hunters to hunt deer on their property under a NDMAP permit. Landowners will provide each hunter's name, address and 2017 deer hunting license number to the Hampton ERD office (832-8055) to apply for NDMAPs. Once approved, eligible hunters can pick up their permit at the Hampton ERD office.

#### NOTE:

- a. Only hunters holding a current deer hunting license are eligible;
- b. Only one (1) NDMAP permit will be issued for each hunter per year;
- c. Only one **antlerless** deer may be harvested under a NDMAP permit;
- d. The NDMAP permit is in addition to the normal one-deer bag limit;
- e. Archery hunting may be preferred in most cases;
- f. Hunters must register the harvested deer at the Hampton ERD office.

*Application ends on October 31, 2017. Processing times for applications could take up to 3 weeks, but may vary depending on volume.*

## LEGAL HUNTING DISTANCES

A regular deer hunting licence may be used to hunt:

- 100 meters away from a dwelling for bow or crossbow
- 200 meters away from a dwelling for shotgun (buckshot)
- 400 meters away from a dwelling for rifles.

Although it is encouraged, permission is not required from a landowner for a hunter to access private lands, unless otherwise posted.

## **KV Nuisance Deer Management**

- Success would be considered positive when landowners experience fewer nuisance problems.
- Reduced deer densities may be reflected through reduced roadkills. Using KV deer roadkill numbers:

<b>Year</b>	<b>KV NDMAP</b>	<b>Roadkill</b>	<b>Densities</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>7.2</b>



# An Integrated Approach for Managing White-Tailed Deer in Suburban Environments:

## *The Cornell University Study*

Jason R. Boulanger, Paul D. Curtis and Bernd Blossey



A publication of Cornell University Cooperative Extension and the  
Northeast Wildlife Damage Research and Outreach Cooperative

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. 2014.

# Community Deer Advisor

Decision support for communities managing deer

[About](#) [What is CBDM?](#) [Community Examples](#) [Resource Library](#) [Assistance](#) [FAQs](#)

## About the Community Deer Advisor

The Community Deer Advisor is a collaboration between [Cornell University](#) and [The Nature Conservancy](#)® to help communities successfully manage deer at a local level.

Community-based deer management (CBDM) is the foundation for the Community Deer Advisor. Our recommendations on negotiating the **process** of CBDM are based on social science research and lessons learned from case studies in multiple states.

The Deer Advisor offers resources to help with community deer management such as:

- A useful process for structuring your program.
- Recommended best practices, including education, communication, and stakeholder engagement.
- Community examples from across the United States.
- An opportunity to share your community's story.
- A "starter kit" for community-based deer management.



## Contributing Organizations



The [Human Dimensions Research Unit \(HDRU\)](#) in the Department of Natural Resources at Cornell University studies the social and economic aspects of natural resources and the environment and the application of social and



The [Nature Conservancy](#)® is a leading science-based conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. It aims to address the most pressing

## A Deer Manager's Toolbox – Lethal Control

### Translocation

Research conducted on the capture and translocation of deer suggests that animals are stressed during the process, and experience high mortality after release, which is why we choose to place this method in with other lethal controls. Translocation is cost prohibitive, may increase the spread of disease, and few places would accept these animals. Many wildlife management agencies prohibit this technique.

### Predator Reintroduction

Deer predators such as wolves and mountain lions were extirpated over much of their range, and recent work has shown that coyote predation does not control overabundant deer populations, with the exception of very special circumstances. At this time, wildlife management agencies are unlikely to advocate for release of mountain lions or wolves in our region due to biological constraints in suburban landscapes, and stakeholder concerns over resource use and safety. It is also questionable whether large predators would have the ability to control abundant deer populations given the ratio of predator to prey. In Wisconsin's remaining wolf range, for example, there are likely more than 1,000 deer for every wolf, a clear indication that wolves by themselves, while certainly feeding on deer, will not be able to control or reduce deer numbers sufficiently.

### Regulated Hunting

This is often the first method proposed as a solution for deer problems, and is advocated by both state wildlife management agencies and hunters. Successful deer reduction via hunting depends on a community's established objectives. For example, hunting, where permitted, may be useful in reducing some level of DVCs, or when implemented before deer populations become too large. This method, along with sterilization, comprised the core of Cornell's initial deer management approach. Our experiences with regulated hunting at Cornell, along with many other communities in the U.S., suggest difficulty in reducing deer abundance to a level that achieves ecological goals. The lack of success in reducing deer populations further may result from a collection of problems including lack of access, hunting regulation impediments, and hunter behavior and preferences. Many areas may remain closed to hunters due to landowner preferences, and deer will quickly find these refugia. Hunting regulations (short seasons, lack of ability to shoot multiple bucks or does, discharge distances) may prevent dedicated individuals from filling more than the usual one or two tags that most hunters use per season. High hunting pressure in certain areas will result in changed deer behavior (animals may become increasingly nocturnal or change travel routines), decreasing hunter success. Furthermore, most hunters do not see themselves as deer managers, and consider hunting their recreation. Even successful individuals rarely shoot more than two or three deer per year, and others may need to be educated about techniques when pursuing suburban deer. Our harvest success rate in the EAB program of <30%, and the many hours hunters spent in the field to harvest a deer, suggest that improvements in the regulated hunting approach are necessary to achieve goals for deer impact reduction.

### Capture and Euthanize

Methods used to capture and euthanize deer include drop nets, Clover traps, or darting to capture deer, followed by penetrating captive bolt, exsanguination, firearms, or chemical euthanization. In most instances, these methods will require contracting with professionals from USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services, law enforcement, or private contractors. Although we have successfully used Clover traps and penetrating captive bolt, a technique approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the American Veterinary Medical Association and by Cornell's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, to euthanize deer in dense suburban areas, staff time and expense were concerns for its continued use. In addition, this method resulted in vehement opposition from a minority of local residents.

Translocation – high mortality, expensive.

Predator Reintroduction – biological and political concern.

Regulated Hunting – ineffective often due to existing laws and lack of access to private lands.

Capture and euthanize – effective, but expensive and not publically supported.

### A Deer Manager's Toolbox – Lethal Control *continued*

The capture-and-euthanize approach has been halted by court order in some communities where attempted. Use of dart rifles and immobilization drugs to capture deer is quick and effective, but using this method in conjunction with euthanasia renders deer meat unfit for human consumption, one of the key conditions that many communities stipulate for deer control. Being able to donate deer meat for consumption is why we chose to use Clover traps and penetrating captive bolt.

#### Bait and Shoot

This is the only method we are aware of that has demonstrated quick reductions in suburban deer populations. While bait and shoot has clearly reduced deer numbers and DVCs in numerous suburban communities, we are not able to assess whether deer reductions have also resulted in reductions in ecological impacts. We are pursuing this work on Cornell lands, but we cannot provide much evidence at this time. Bait and shoot methods may be divided into either volunteer contributions, such as in our DDP efforts at Cornell, or contractual services by professionals. In both instances, participants bait deer into locations where discharge of bows, crossbows, or firearms is safe; and deer are shot at close range. This method is most effective on naïve deer herds unfamiliar with hunting. Although hunted deer tend to be much more cautious, bait-and-shoot methods can still lead to population reductions. Using contractual services is expensive, but time spent afield is greatly reduced, and costs are generally much less than fertility control. Bait-and-shoot techniques are clearly the most likely to reduce deer populations to the lowest levels possible, given all of today's options.

#### Regulated Commercial Hunting

Under current laws and regulations, this method is not legal in most states. This proposed method may include contracting deer management out to approved individuals or companies, or expanding the ability of recreational hunters to sell meat or other deer parts. Contractors or individuals would be able to sell venison at market prices to cover their time and costs. Numerous and notable wildlife professionals in the U.S. support and continue to debate this method. North American wildlife management agencies have not moved forward with the idea of bringing back commercial hunting, and the sale of wild-caught venison is prohibited in most states. Moreover, hunters who consider it a threat to their recreational pursuits vehemently oppose commercial hunting. Ironically, venison sold in U.S. stores is either farm-raised or imported from New Zealand, where white-tailed deer were introduced and have become an invasive pest species, and where deer are commercially hunted.

Bait and Shoot – Very effective, the best lethal option provided in the document.

Regulated Commercial Hunting – Not legal in most states or provinces. Involves the sale of venison

## A Deer Manager's Toolbox – Nonlethal Control

### Change Ornamental Planting Regimes

The recommendations to use non-palatable plantings often contain non-native, sometimes invasive species, and thus not ecologically-acceptable options. Furthermore, widely planting just a few reliably deer-resistant plants will greatly reduce local biodiversity with unacceptable consequences for native insects and birds that require native species as food and shelter.

### Repellents (Chemical and Physical)

Repellents in various forms (chemical or nonchemical, such as scare devices in gardens or along roadways) may have short-term effects, if at all, but they are not a permanent solution, despite widespread claims.

## A Deer Manger's Toolbox – Nonlethal Control *continued*

### Fences

Although some deer can clear an 8-foot-high fence, depending on terrain, this minimum height can be effective for keeping deer out of high-value areas permanently, but it excludes other wildlife, has high initial costs, and pushes deer into adjacent unfenced areas. Fences will remain an essential option to guard roads, high-value ornamental plantings, or threatened populations of native species. However, they have no effect on overall deer abundance in a community.

### Fertility Control

At present, sterilization can only be performed on deer in New York State as part of approved scientific studies and requires a DEC License to Collect and Possess (LCP) research animals. In other states, you should contact your state wildlife agency to determine applicable laws and regulations. Such regulations change frequently, and you need to keep up to date. Until further data are gathered and analyzed, this technique continues to be experimental, and is not an approved method routinely available to managers. See below for a more in-depth treatment of fertility control.

**QUESTIONS?**

