



TO: Mayor and Council – The Borough of Saddle River

FR: Saddle River Wildlife Management Commission

RE: Deer Management Recommendations

DATE: February 19, 2016

The Saddle River Wildlife Management Commission met on February 19, 2016 for the purpose of making technical changes to the previously drafted deer management plan resolution that was submitted to the Mayor and Council in October 2015 and posted on the Borough website for public comment.

The changes we are proposing reflect many of the comments from members of the public that we have received since October.

Please find attached a new draft of the deer management resolution along with a “redline” version that shows the differences from October 2015.

Changes to the new draft resolution include:

- **Hunter must be 21 years or older (previously it was 18 years or older).**
- **Discharge of bows for the purpose of deer hunting is limited to Saddle River residents, their immediate relatives or by special permit issued by the Borough Council.**
- **Hunters must agree to take five deer, the first two of which shall be does.**
- **Each hunter must register with the Saddle River Police Department while providing information such as his/her license plate number and wireless phone number.**
- **Hunters shall report each successfully hunted deer to the Saddle River Police Department.**

The Committee also agreed to make the following additional recommendations to the Mayor and Council:

- **The Saddle River Police Department may wish to name one or more officers to be specific points of contact for Wildlife related matters (with contact information posted on the Police Department website).**
- **The Wildlife Management Committee believes that non-lethal methods of reducing the deer population may hold promise for Saddle River and that either the Borough should continue to explore options with the Humane Society to introduce either a non-lethal pilot project or a non-lethal deer population reduction management project to Saddle River.**
- **The Wildlife Management Committee is currently a committee created by the Mayor. The Wildlife Management Committee recommends that this Committee should be reconstituted, potentially with additional members, and then re-authorized by the Mayor and Council to be an annual committee recognized in the Council bylaws. This may require an amendment to the Borough Code. Because committees of this type are typically chaired by members of the public, not Councilmembers, the Committee recommends that Jerry DeCrosta be selected by the Mayor and Council to be the Chairman of a new Committee created by the Mayor and Council.**

The members of the Committee reiterate that the deer issue in Saddle River is important and that the Mayor and Council should take action on this issue in 2016.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Saddle River Wildlife Management Committee

Dr. Duncan Carpenter
Jerry DeCrosta
Bob LaViano
Paul Schulstad