



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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FIRM OF:
Kilkenny Law

September 6, 2024

RE: Deer Management in Upper Merion Township

Dear Resident,

At their August business meeting, the Upper Merion Board of Supervisors approved an agreement between the Township and Chester Valley Deer Management Association (CVDMA) to provide deer management services on Township-owned properties, including parks and open space. The services will include deer harvesting through limited, controlled archery hunting with trained and approved personnel. The harvesting will be kept to areas away from trails and park amenities. This program will only occur during hunting season, and is not open to the public. Additionally, this will be performed at no cost to residents.

Due to a large increase of complaints regarding deer, ranging from property damage to increased occurrences of Lyme's Disease, the Township began researching methods of population control. Many other local municipalities participate in a harvesting program by United States Department of Agriculture. In order to participate, the municipality must have two years of an established hunting program to show the need for a culling. As such, working with CVDMA allows us to monitor all hunting activities, ensuring that it is done in a safe manner. We hope that the program is successful in reaching a stable deer population and the Township will continue to assess the situation every year to determine if a cull is an appropriate next step.

CVDMA is fully insured and works with other municipalities and private landowners to manage their deer population. For more information, you can visit our website at <https://www.umtownship.org/landing-page-environment/deer-management/>, or contact me using the information below.

Sincerely,

Amanda Lafty
Assistant Township Manager
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