

Hays, Diana

To: Broshkevitch, Andrea
Subject: RE: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

Diana Hays, CMC
Town Clerk/Executive Assistant
540-751-2334

From: Broshkevitch, Andrea
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 12:57 PM
To: Hays, Diana <dways@purcellvilleva.gov>
Cc: Mekarski, David <dmekarski@purcellvilleva.gov>; Hankins, Sally <shankins@purcellvilleva.gov>; McCann, Hooper <hmccann@purcellvilleva.gov>; Didawick, Jason <jdidawick@purcellvilleva.gov>; Lehnig, Dale <dlehnik@purcellvilleva.gov>; Goff, Joshua <jgoff@purcellvilleva.gov>; Alter, Stacie <salter@purcellvilleva.gov>; Snyder, Bernie <bsnyder@purcellvilleva.gov>; Grey, Sean <sgrey@purcellvilleva.gov>
Subject: RE: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

Please see David Godley's response to the two questions, shown below in red. Jason has also forwarded information about a archery hunting program out at Aberdeen they had previously researched and developed, please see attached.

Thanks, Andrea

Andrea Broshkevitch
Engineering, Planning & Dev
Town of Purcellville
221 S. Nursery Avenue
Purcellville, VA 20132
Office: 540-751-2353
Cell: 571-442-3942
abroshke@purcellvilleva.gov

From: Hays, Diana
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 11:26 AM
To: Broshkevitch, Andrea <abroshke@purcellvilleva.gov>
Cc: Mekarski, David <dmekarski@purcellvilleva.gov>; Hankins, Sally <shankins@purcellvilleva.gov>; McCann, Hooper <hmccann@purcellvilleva.gov>; Didawick, Jason <jdidawick@purcellvilleva.gov>; Lehnig, Dale <dlehnik@purcellvilleva.gov>; Goff, Joshua <jgoff@purcellvilleva.gov>; Alter, Stacie <salter@purcellvilleva.gov>; Snyder, Bernie <bsnyder@purcellvilleva.gov>; Grey, Sean <sgrey@purcellvilleva.gov>
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Andrea,

Can you please ask Mr. Godley the following two questions on behalf of David:

What is the optimal time period to allow the culling of the deer? I believe the Town has three options or a combination of these options.

1. NOVA late Archery Season is from March 29, 2021 to April 25, 2021 and includes Loudoun County (<http://www.eregulations.com/virginia/hunting/deer-hunting-seasons/>). We have Town employees who have deer archery licenses and would be able to go out after TC approval and when the season closes on April 25th. Davey/WSSI will be out spraying and planting during this time frame but they said they would help coordinate with the Town in allowing deer hunting and keeping everyone safe with the work being done.
2. Request a Kill Permit from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources to allow hunting during the off season. This is allowed if you are experiencing deer damage to your commercial crops or residential plants. Additional information can be found here, <https://dwr.virginia.gov/permits/kill-permits/>.
3. Regular hunting Season for archery season starts September 5, 2021. We would need to wait until September 5th to implement any type of program. Additional information about the different hunting seasons can be found here, <https://dwr.virginia.gov/permits/kill-permits/>.

What period do we need to prohibit hunting to ensure the safety of your employees? Davey/WSSI said they would work very closely with the Town in coordinating. We would need to be able to NOT allow hunting on the days they are out working on the site. They would let us know each day and the hours they are working on-site. This also means we would need to have strict controls in place to know at all times who is scheduled to be out hunting and at what times. We would need to have a way to contact the "hunter" at all times for this type of coordination. They said they would coordinate with the Town if hunting is approved now and until April 25th. Basically they see the deer as a threat to the success of the tree bank and will coordinate with the town to allow hunting on the property at anytime during the year.

Diana Hays, CMC
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From: Broshkevitch, Andrea
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 10:41 AM
To: Mekarski, David <dmekarski@purcellvilleva.gov>; Hankins, Sally <shankins@purcellvilleva.gov>; McCann, Hooper <hmcann@purcellvilleva.gov>; Didawick, Jason <jdidawick@purcellvilleva.gov>; Lehnig, Dale <dlehnic@purcellvilleva.gov>; Hays, Diana <dhays@purcellvilleva.gov>
Cc: Goff, Joshua <jgoff@purcellvilleva.gov>; Alter, Stacie <salter@purcellvilleva.gov>; Snyder, Bernie <bsnyder@purcellvilleva.gov>; Grey, Sean <sgrey@purcellvilleva.gov>
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Good Morning David and Sally, Davey Mitigation is requesting for the Town to implement some type of deer management program out at Aberdeen to help in establishing the Town's new forest and Nutrient Bank. Is it possible to forward this request to Town Council to get permission for establishing a managed hunting program out at Aberdeen to aid in the survival of the soon to be planted trees and improve the success of the Nutrient Bank project? Please see Davey Mitigation's request below. I have highlighted the specific request.

Thank you, Andrea

Andrea Broshkevitch

Engineering, Planning & Dev
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From: Godley, David <David.Godley@davey.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:26 PM

To: Broshkevitch, Andrea <abroshke@purcellvilleva.gov>

Cc: Lehnig, Dale <dlehnik@purcellvilleva.gov>; Goff, Joshua <jgoff@purcellvilleva.gov>; Snyder, Bernie <bsnyder@purcellvilleva.gov>; Alter, Stacie <salter@purcellvilleva.gov>; Mascia, TJ <TJ.Mascia@davey.com>; Graziano, Frank <FGraziano@wetlands.com>; Connelly, John <JConnelly@wetlands.com>; Van Houten, Jennifer <jvanhouten@wetlands.com>

Subject: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

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Andrea,

As we've discussed John, Jen and I walked the property Monday after our meeting to flag out the well head locations and other areas that needed flagging for planting or herbicide treatment. While walking through the various pastures we were impressed with the extremely high deer population. I believe we easily saw 40+ deer during our walk which also explained the numerous ticks we were finding. Nothing makes me happier than seeing wildlife during site visits but seeing that many deer was concerning for the success of our Nutrient Bank. That many deer left uncontrolled will have detrimental effects on the survival of our trees through browse and when the bucks start rubbing on trees for the rut. We are taking preventative steps to ensure good survival, growth, and that we'll maintain the required minimum number of stems for the Bank by doing the following:

- Pre-planting herbicide treatment to reduce competition
- Mechanical Planting – Creates a rip in the ground to promote root growth and pack wheels to compact soil around tree and disrupt air pockets. (avoids standard ripping which requires 2 months to heal)
- Planting within reasonable planting season for this region
- Planting at a high density on a 9x5 spacing to promote vertical growth inside the row.
- Using locally sourced trees grown in the same state, ecoregion, and 95 miles south of the site.
- Using refrigerated trailer to haul trees and store onsite during planting

Even with those steps we anticipate a need for supplemental planting over the next 1-2 planting seasons to account for mortality caused by deer. We're prepared to undertake those supplemental planting efforts to ensure this project will meet the success criteria as required by DEQ but also so that the Town has a project you will be proud of. Deer management through hunting would go a long way towards supporting our efforts in establishing this new forest and Nutrient Bank for the Town of Purcellville. We respectfully request the Town Council consider reopening the Aberdeen Property to either managed hunting in a manner satisfactory to the Council or consider a State managed depredation hunt to cull the herd. Doing so will not only aid in the survival of more of our trees and improve the success of the project but also improve the health of the deer herd and hopefully reduce the tick population and risk for tick borne diseases in this area also.

Notes:

- Herbicide treatment has been contracted and is scheduled for early next week. We'll inform you of the actual day once we have confirmation.
- We're still on-track as of today for delivery of trees next Wednesday and for planting to start next Friday.

Please let us know if we can offer any further assistance in your efforts to establish some deer management or with anything else.

Regards,

David Godley

Senior Project Manager - Davey Mitigation

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There's no one better in the field! wetlands.com