

Hays, Diana

From: Fraser, Kwasi
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Hays, Diana
Cc: Williams, Mary Jane; Only Town Council; Didawick, Jason
Subject: Re: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

Good timing I spoke to Jason about this just yesterday while touring the Aberdeen property. The managed hunt proposal need to be opened for citizens and town employees participation to obtain community wide support. It must also include a fair price to cover any administrative expense to the town.

The agenda item can be titled:

Purcellville Managed Hunt Deer Population Mitigation Program - Citizens and Employees Partnership

Call out the following benefits:

- Reduction of vehicular accidents
- Deer tick mitigation
- Tree growth and survival
- Food for the needy - Deer meat

Let's also make accommodations to invite expert hunters to compete at a fee and donate game meat to food pantries.

Thanks,

Kwasi Fraser

Mayor - Purcellville, Virginia

571 970-7205

Sent from my iPhone

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On Apr 9, 2021, at 11:26 AM, Hays, Diana <dhays@purcellvilleva.gov> wrote:

Mayor and Vice Mayor,

We would like to add this to Tuesday's agenda – please see below.

David A. Mekarski, AICP
Town Manager
540-751-2316

From: Hankins, Sally
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 11:06 AM
To: Broshkevitch, Andrea <abroshke@purcellvilleva.gov>; Mekarski, David <dmekarski@purcellvilleva.gov>; McCann, Hooper <hmccann@purcellvilleva.gov>; Didawick, Jason <jdidawick@purcellvilleva.gov>; Lehnig, Dale <dlehng@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>
Subject: RE: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

David and Diana, Since time is of the essence, this should be added to the agenda on Tuesday April 13.

Sally G. Hankins

Town Attorney
Town of Purcellville
221 S. Nursery Avenue
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(540) 751-2394 (direct)
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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 <hmccann@purcellvilleva.gov>; Didawick, Jason <jdidawick@purcellvilleva.gov>; Lehnig, Dale <dlehnig@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>
Subject: FW: Deer population on the Aberdeen Tract

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
Town of Purcellville
221 S. Nursery Avenue
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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 <dlehnig@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