DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of West Bend has determined there to be an over-population of deer within the City, and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the over-population of deer constitutes a nuisance endangering the safety and property of the citizens of West Bend, and

WHEREAS, the City has considered a variety of mitigation tactics for the deer population.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of West Bend, Washington County, Wisconsin, as follows:

1. City shall allow a limited regulated nuisance hunt on the conditions established herein to mitigate the deer population of the City.

2. City shall apply for 20 nuisance permits through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to be used during the period of January 10th to January 14th, 2018 in the following parks: Lac Lawrann Conservancy and Ridge Run Park.

3. The Deer Management Committee shall be established to manage and regulate the hunt. The Committee shall consist of eight (8) members serving on a year-to-year basis appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Common Council. Members shall have expertise relating to hunting and/or the parks system and need not be a citizen of West Bend. The Mayor appoints and Council approves the following initial members of the Committee: Steve Hutchins, John Butschlick, Paul Schleif, Chris Dymale, Larry Polenski, Joanne Kline, Duane Farrand and Michael Jentsch.

4. All hunters shall be adult citizens of the City and shall pass a proficiency test established by the Committee. Upon passage of the proficiency test, hunters shall be entered into a random lottery for hunting locations and permits.

5. The Committee shall determine the specific hunting locations within each park. One randomly selected hunter shall be assigned to each designated location in the Committee’s discretion. The Committee may also randomly select alternate hunters to be assigned in the Committee’s discretion. All specific hunting locations shall be presented to the Common Council for approval prior to the commencement of the hunting period.

6. Baiting shall be allowed for two weeks prior to the hunt as allowed by the rules and regulations established by the Committee.

7. Each hunter shall be issued nuisance permits for the designated location. The hunter may bow hunt or crossbow hunt for deer from a tree stand in the designated location and shall wear a safety harness while in the stand. All shots taken shall have a downward trajectory.
8. Each hunter shall notify the West Bend Police Department prior to entering the stand location and upon leaving the stand location.

9. The Committee shall be responsible for determining safety regulations for the hunt, including but not limited to, closing a portion or all of a designated park to the public for the duration of the hunt. All safety regulations shall be presented to the Common Council for approval prior to the commencement of the hunting period.

10. Hunters may keep one deer harvested; however, the hunter may not keep any antlers harvested. All other harvested deer shall be donated to local food pantries through Wisconsin DNR’s established program.

11. All rules established by the Committee shall be in full compliance with state and federal law, the Municipal Code of the City of West Bend, and the terms and conditions contained in this Resolution.

12. Violation of any rule established herein or by the Committee may result in lifetime revocation of all future hunting privileges or other civil or criminal liability.

13. This Resolution shall be reviewed by the Common Council prior to the commencement of the 2018-2019 hunting season.

HISTORY AND PROBLEM

1. Issues and Concerns: The issues listed below were brought to the City of West Bend’s attention by its citizens. The geographic locations of these concerns are subdivisions and high traffic roads in or near city parks.

   a. Human Health and Safety – The potential number of car/deer incidents within the city and those with close proximity to the city, but under other jurisdictions, is concerning. Potential for deer physical interactions with humans or pets is deemed high in subdivisions that exist in the parks areas.

   b. Private Property Damage – In addition to possible damage incurred with car/deer accidents, residents have complained of destruction of landscaping and gardens.

   c. Habitat Impacts – Over-grazing of native flora by deer allows non-native plants to gain a foothold in forested areas. Once native plants have been forced out by competition with the non-native species, native fauna (birds, insects, small mammals, etc.) are also forced from these habitats. The process to re-establish native species can take many years if it can be done.

   d. Herd Health – Relative herd health is the condition of a white-tailed deer population relative to the ability of the habitat to support it. Herd health is an important component in any deer management scenario. At any point in time there is a finite supply of nutritional resources available to support deer. If the
nutritional needs of the population exceed the habitat’s ability to provide for those needs (i.e., a state of overpopulation), then both herd health and habitat quality or land health are compromised.

2. Control Methods

a. **Sharp Shooting** – The use of paid shooter contractors is an effective, safe, and efficient method of deer removal. Deer are coerced into areas that are laid out in safe shooting zones and shot from elevated platforms. At the time of this plan, estimated cost is $100 and up per animal removed. Usually the deer carcasses are donated to area food pantries.

b. **Hunting** – Is the most cost effective removal abatement option. The use of controlled hunts can be done safely on public lands. Participating individuals will be expected to follow all DNR regulations and required special City of West Bend rules as laid out in attached Appendixes.

3. Implementation Process

a. The City may continue to work with the WiDNR to further the control of the deer population for the welfare of West Bend residents, and the health of the deer herd and our natural areas.

b. In accordance with the guidelines of this report, the appropriate city officials may implement a deer population reduction program using bow hunters. Volunteer archery hunters must pass proficiency and background tests, including knowledge of special city regulations by passing the bow hunter exam, and retain a current WiDNR archery license. These archers will be allowed to remove deer from public parks during these controlled hunts. The hunting activity dates and times may be controlled per drawings and/or any approved means in the future for public parks.

c. The City may also encourage the City’s larger private landholders, and adjoining municipalities and townships to support the West Bend efforts to control the deer population. The Deer Management Committee recognizes that deer herds migrate throughout the region and population control success will be limited without support from surrounding jurisdictions and private lands.

d. The City may continue to compile data for deer management, including, but not limited to, information about vehicle-deer accidents, citizen comments, volunteer surveys, and may include future aerial deer counts if needed.
City of West Bend  
Nuisance Hunt City Permit Policy

1. Persons desiring a permit to participate in a Deer Management Hunt shall procure an application form, from the West Bend City Clerk’s Office or online at [www.ci.west-bend.wi.us](http://www.ci.west-bend.wi.us)

The following information will be needed:

a. Only nine (9) hunters will be issued permits.
b. Present Proficiency Score Sheet (Appendix B) completed by a representative of West Bend Archery Range.
c. Presentation and copy of valid and current Wisconsin DNR Archery License.
d. Each application shall be subject to an administrative fee of Twenty Dollars ($20.00) and ten dollars per test ($10) for the Proficiency testing.
e. Review Rules and Shooting Safely & Ethically – Appendixes C and D respectively.
f. Individual must score 100% on Bowhunter Exam – Appendix E.
g. The city will grant the applicant the City of West Bend/WiDNR Nuisance Permits.
h. City Permits are non-transferrable, non-refundable, and shall only authorize the named Permitee to participate in the Nuisance Hunt pursuant to any restrictions contained therein during the season designated on the permit.
i. Notwithstanding any other provision contained herein, the West Bend Police Department shall retain the absolute discretion to issue, deny, or revoke a City Permit, or to limit or condition the same in any manner, for any reason or no reason.
j. Only the areas shown and described on the Deer Zone Map are open to the Nuisance Deer Hunt.
k. Please note that DNR personnel have the right to collect and hold any deer carcass or parts of carcasses that may show signs of diseases.
l. Hunters must follow and abide by all standards and regulation set forth in the Management Plan and its appendixes.
m. All permitted hunters are responsible for any damage caused to others, themselves, and for property damage.
Hunters must have valid nuisance permit on their possession while hunting.

(Only nine (9) hunters will be issued permits)

Hunter Instructions:
Register the deer in one of the following ways:
- Phone 1-844-426-3734
- Online at: gamereg.wi.gov

Be prepared to provide the following information:
- Hunter’s Date of Birth
- DNR Customer ID Number
- Damage Permit Number
- County of harvest
- Date of Kill
- Type of deer (antlered or antlerless)
  - Check permit for restrictions.
- Weapon Type
- # of hours hunted, # of deer seen, and rate the weather

Write the registration confirmation number on the nuisance permit. This number will be provided to you at time of registration. Confirm that your harvest, personal information and confirmation number have been entered on the Nuisance Deer Hunt Harvest Report.

Note: Registration must be completed no later than 5:00 p.m. the day after harvest.
Archery Proficiency Testing - Appendix A

1. Only residents of the City of West Bend are eligible to apply.

2. Before allowing an individual to participate in the proficiency test, said individuals must show that they have passed a required WiDNR Hunter Safety (if born after January 1, 1973).

3. Individuals must pass an authorized archery proficiency test with the archery equipment they use in the field (equal to standards under DNR archery regulations) which will include using at least 3 separate individual arrows with hunting blades or practice blades of similar size and shape to the hunting blade. For individuals who have DNR licensing to use crossbows, like the standard archery equipment tests, will use no fewer than 3 bolts with hunting tips. No other equipment will be allowed during the proficiency test.

4. The testing will take place at the City of West Bend Archery Range. Scorers or judges at said testing locations have the right of refusal in denying or allowing an individual to participate in the testing when in their judgment there are safety issues at hand. Fees will be set yearly by the City Council.

5. Targets will be set at 20 yards in distance.

6. Individuals can take warm up shots. The elevated platform is for proficiency testing only.

7. Maximum of 6 arrows/bolts are shot and scored at a 6” target. To pass the Proficiency Test, the individual must place 5 out of the 6 within the target the 6” circle.

8. There will be a fee of $10 per test to be paid at the range.

Refer to Appendix B – Proficiency Score Sheet Form
General Rules - Appendix C

All individuals partaking in nuisance hunts will use only archery equipment and be issued
nuisance permits. Said hunts within the City of West Bend must follow WiDNR rules and
regulations up to and including:

1. Licensing, Permits, and Testing
   a. Nine (9) hunters will be given permits
   b. Individual must pass the Proficiency Test and Bowhunter’s Exam.
      The proficiency test sheet and exam must be handed in with City of
      West Bend Deer Nuisance Application to the City Clerk’s Office
   c. Applicant must have a current WiDNR archery license, be able to supply
      his/her WiDNR customer service number.
   d. Applicant must have an understanding of the General Rules and Shooting
      Safely & Ethically.
   e. Individual applicants will be entered into the lottery conducted by the
      Deer Management Committee to grant the City of West Bend/WiDNR
      Nuisance Permits.
   f. Nuisance Harvest Report must be completed at the end of the hunt.

2. While participating in a hunt, individuals must have on their person:
   a. Current WiDNR Archery license.
   b. City of West Bend/WiDNR Nuisance Permit
   c. Must have knowledge of park lands.
   d. The park lands have been divided into zones. Successful lottery hunters
      must stay in their assigned zones unless in the act of game or arrow
      retrieval.

3. While participating in a nuisance hunt in the City of West Bend, all bows are required
   to be cased while traveling from the vehicle to the stand and vice versa.

4. Tree/Elevated Stands:
   a. All stands must be portable and elevated.
   b. No screw-in steps, nails, or screws from climbing can be driven into trees.
   c. Stands can be placed no more than 24 hours prior to the permitted start of
      the hunt and can remain at the location throughout the permitted hunt dates.
      Stands must be removed 24 hours after the permitted hunt ends.
   d. Stands have to be a minimum of 300’ from a dwelling or 100’ from
      recreational trails.
   e. All portable stands shall bear the name of the hunter and phone number
      that is visible within 5 feet.
   f. The City of West Bend is not responsible for unattended stands.
   g. The City of West Bend reserves the right to regulate where stands are
      placed and shooting direction.
   h. Shots shall not exceed 25 yards and must be oriented away from
      maintained roads, trails, and structures.
   i. All hunters shall wear a safety harness while in the stand. All safety
      precautions must be followed.
5. Deer drives are strictly prohibited. The definition of a deer drive is: the act of chasing, pursuing, disturbing or otherwise directing deer so as to make animals more susceptible to harvest.

6. Hunting dates are limited to those prescribed by the City Council. Hunting hours must be consistent with DNR regulations.

7. On public parks signage will be placed on park boundaries prior to hunts and shall list hunt dates accordingly.

8. Hunters must be aware of downrange areas and think safety first.

9. Hunters shall always use proper field dressing techniques and disposition of entrails and must be a minimum of 300’ from a dwelling or 100’ from recreational trails.

10. All deer harvested must be processed for their meat for personal use or donated to a local food pantry.

11. Harvest Report – Appendix F: Permit Holder must return the Harvest Report to City of West Bend Clerk’s Department 48 hours after registering a deer or after permitted hunt. Failure to do so will cause loss of privilege as stated in 2017-2018, Resolution 39.

12. Hunters shall avoid and remove themselves from any harassing situation and immediately report said confrontation to the proper authority.

13. While participating in a City of West Bend Nuisance hunt, individuals should call the proper authorities pertaining to jurisdictional issues listed below:

   *For reporting Game Violations
   *For reporting hunter harassment
   *For reporting trespassing, destruction of property, vandalism, etc.

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<td><strong>West Bend Police Dept.</strong></td>
<td><strong>WiDNR</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Emergency 262-335-5000</td>
<td>1-800-847-9367</td>
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<td>Emergency – 911</td>
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Ridge Run
Hunting Zones

Legend
- Park
- Sledding Hill
- 200' Buffer
- Hunting Zones

1R
29.2 Acres

2R
27.45 Acres

3R
28.15 Acres

4R
22.62 Acres

5R
40.21 Acres

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Shooting Safely & Ethically - Appendix D

One of the most common reasons bow hunters miss opportunities to take an animal is because of the excitement of being close to their quarry. “Target Panic” or “Buck Fever” may cause them to completely forget the fundamentals of shooting and miss the shot. Planning a shot strategy before the animal arrives increases the chance of taking game.

Shot strategy, which involves determining possible pick-off points and shot angles in a given hunting area, can be accomplished best through visualization and simulated practice.

Visualize and Practice Your Strategy
Mentally run through all the likely routes the animal may take and identify exactly where and when you’ll take your shot if it comes from the left, from the right, from behind, or in front of you. Take a few practice shots, and log the distance to each spot. Your shot strategy will help you concentrate on making a good hit when the moment actually arrives.

Choose the Proper Shot Angle
The shot angle is the angle at which the animal is standing in relation to the bow hunter. Knowing which angles offer the most effective—and least effective—shots is an essential part of being a responsible bow hunter.

**Broadside**
Given the thickness of their chests, a broadsided shot on deer offers the shortest distance through the chest cavity.

**Quartering Away**
- The animal is usually looking away from the hunter.
- The aiming spot will be farther back than with the broadsided shot; the exact spot varies depending on the degree to which the animal is quartering away.
- The opposite front leg is a good reference point for the aiming point.
Quatering Toward
- This angle offers a poor shot opportunity and **should not be taken**.
- Shoulder bones shield the majority of vital organs from penetration.
- The animal is typically looking toward the hunter and will likely spot the hunter’s movements.

Head-On and/or Rear-End
- These angles offer very poor shot selection and **should not be taken**.
- Bones in front and muscle mass and non-vital organs in back block penetration of the main vital areas.

Above the Target
- A tree stand or elevated platform offers good shot opportunities, especially from broadside and quartering-away shot angles.
- As a bow hunter climbs higher, the vital area becomes a smaller target area because the animal’s shoulder bone and spine shield more of the vital organs.
- The shooter needs to “bend at the waist” and not drop the bow arm while at full draw. Often the reason a hunter misses is because the point of aim and impact has changed.
Long Shots

Although the average hunter has a maximum effective range of 25 yards, most bow hunters shoot game from a much closer range. They know that the chance of wounding game increases as distance increases because:

- It becomes more difficult to hit the vital areas
- The arrow may be deflected by unnoticed brush
- The longer the arrow is in the air, the greater the chance the animal will move

**When bow hunting, you should never take a shot when a deer or other big game is looking at you because it is difficult to go undetected when drawing your bow.

A mortally struck animal may die in only 10 to 30 seconds. A white-tailed deer can cover a lot of ground in those few seconds and could disappear from view. An animal struck with less than ideal arrow placement may travel a longer distance before collapsing. With the exception of a spine shot, a wise bow hunter gives the animal time to expire. Bow hunters should be patient before approaching or trailing the animal. Approaching a downed animal or starting the tracking process too soon may cause it to run even farther away, making the recovery more difficult. Usually you will find a well-hit animal within 200 yards. A poorly hit animal may travel considerably farther, but never give up while there is sign to follow.

If it appears that the arrow penetrated deep into the chest, wait 30 minutes to give the animal a chance to calm down and die, and then follow the trail carefully.

If you find the arrow with signs of a gut hit and the trail is skimpy, back off and wait six to eight hours or the next day. If you shoot and believe that you hit the animal in the gut, don’t even follow the trail far enough to retrieve the arrow. Wait at least six hours before following the trail, even if rain, snow or darkness threatens to obliterate the trail. It’s easier to find a dead deer under six inches of snow within 200 yards of where you shot it than to find one under three inches of snow two miles from where you shot it.

On a poor hit outside the chest or body cavity (neck, leg, rump, or back), the animal may run away quickly and then stop, calm down, and stop bleeding. Often the animal will survive. If you can follow the animal rapidly and aggressively, it will continue to bleed, even from a relatively minor wound. It may lose enough blood to get careless and give you another shot. It may even die from a wound that would not normally be considered fatal. If you’re certain you have this type of hit and the conditions are right—open terrain, tracking snow, or a good initial blood trail—it’s best to take up the trail immediately and push the animal.

When in doubt, it’s better to wait 60 minutes and then carefully start trailing the animal. If you’re new to trailing and recovery, it’s best to have a more experienced hunter with you.