

# **Long Beach**

# **Deer Reduction Proposal**

# Why we have a deer problem

- Initial settlers to this area eliminated deer predators: cougars/wolves/bears
- Indiana deer wiped out by 1893
- DNR re-introduction of wild deer in 1934
- DNR manages hunting seasons and bag limits to control rural deer population. High deer counts means longer hunting season and more deer allowed per hunter
- Significant increase in suburban deer in the past 25 years due to abundant food source and no predators/hunters. No way to control deer population growth
- DNR classifies Long Beach as a Deer Reduction Zone – Extra opportunities for deer hunters
  - Up to 14 deer per season: 2 bucks/12 doe
  - Season extended: September 15, 2021 to January 31, 2022

# Urban Deer Technical Guide

<https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/files/fw-UrbanDeerTechnicalGuide.pdf>

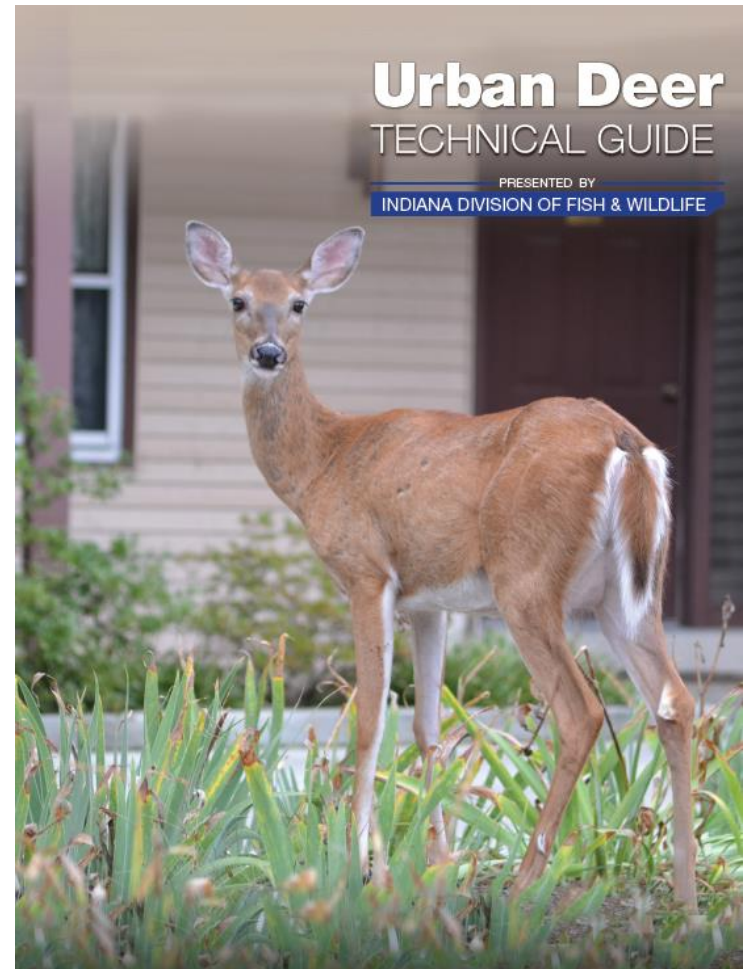
- Options for Urban Deer Management

Deer Management Solutions Matrix

Control Method	Estimated Cost/Deer	Method Removes Deer Immediately	Method is Relatively Ethical or B-Rate	Method Requires Maintenance	Control Method is Safe	Pros	Cons
Fencing	Variable	NO	NO	YES	YES	Restricts access of deer to problem area	Does not address deer population problem
Repellents	Variable	NO	NO	YES	YES	Limits exposure of deer to problem area	Does not address deer population problem, frequent reapplication is required  Not likely effective at controlling population in free ranging animals, requires trained specialist to administer the drug, public concern for drugs in deer
Fertility Control	\$300-\$500	NO	YES	YES	YES	Temporarily reduces future births in individual deer	Restricted by DNR policy, locations to move deer are often limited, high chance for deer myopathy, requires trained specialists
Trap & Relocate	\$400-\$3,000	YES	NO	YES	YES	Removes problem deer from immediate area experiencing conflict	Perceived or may be stressful to deer, intensive work by trained specialists, public disdain toward the procedure
Trap & Euthanize	\$300-\$500	YES	YES	YES	YES	Lethally removes deer where safety is a concern, potential for venison donation	Not likely effective at controlling population in free ranging animals, requires trained specialist to capture and sterilize the deer
Sterilization	\$800-\$1000	NO	YES	YES	YES	Permanently reduces future births in individual deer	Perceived safety concern, requires trained specialist, public disdain toward the procedure
Sharpshooting	\$200-\$350	YES	YES	YES	YES Perceived danger	Rapid reduction of deer population, potential for venison donation	Perception can be controversial, difficult in communities with dense housing, requires access and participation by landowners, may take time to achieve goals
Hunting (Regular and Managed)	Minor admin. costs by city/ Hunting license	YES	YES	YES	YES Perceived danger	Cost effective, onus on the landowner to participate, potential for venison donation	

- Hunting presents the best option

- DNR sponsored CHAP: Community Hunter Access Program



# What other communities are doing

- **Duneland Beach CHAP program**

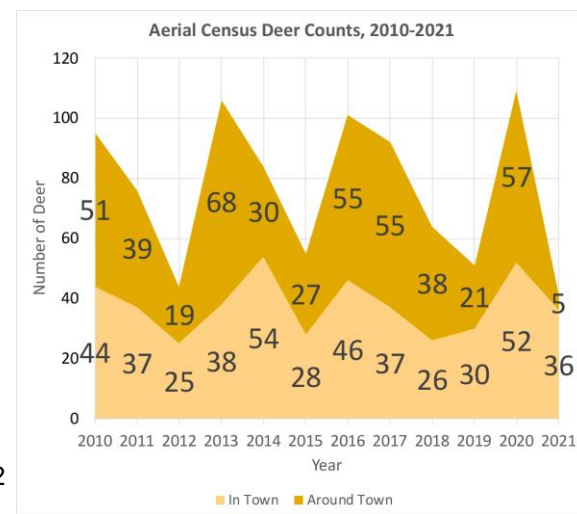
- CHAP program with qualified archers – 384 acres
- Paid CHAP coordinator
- DNR application / potential funding
- 107 deer removed in past 3 seasons:
  - 2019 - 57
  - 2020 - 37
  - 2021 - 13
- Significant deer reduction observed by residents
- DNR advised they are now in “maintenance” mode
- No safety incidents

- **Beverly Shores**

- BSERG – Beverly Shores Environmental Restoration Group <https://www.bserg.org/deer.html>
- Historical counts from March flyover area, ~ 2 Sq. Mi (1,280 acres)
- More than 60 deer/square mile in 2020 survey
- Dunes National Park target amount is 15 deer/square mile
- Total deer harvested, combination of hunting and DNR approved cull over baited areas

	Hunting	Cull
2012-2013	15-20	20-25
2013-2014	10-15	20-25
2014-2015	10-15	15-20
2015-2016	5-10	5-10
2016-2017	5-10	5-10

- BSERG will review recent information and advise if a deer hunt/cull is planned for 2021-2022
- No safety incidents



## What other communities are doing (cont.)

- Dune Acres

- Rifle/shotgun sharpshooters for deer culls since 1997 under DNR Permit.
- 4 baited shooting locations in park areas in January 2021, up to 25 deer allowed
- Collaborate with Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry
- No hunts in 2019 and 2020, deer numbers increased
- Resident documentation of deer damage
- Cull resumed January 2021: 10 deer from 4 volunteer sharpshooters in January 2021, expected more deer taken
- No safety incidents

- Michigan City

- No program

# Proposal for Long Beach

- CHAP program following DNR guidelines with qualified archers (20+)
- CHAP Grant Application Filed to receive DNR funding

**GRANT APPLICATION - COMMUNITY HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM**  
 DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES  
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Please complete the questions to the space below. Additional pages may be used to supplement answers, as needed. Please include any additional photographs you feel may assist the application, such as research, surveys, or public comments.

1. Name of community or hunting entity  
 Long Beach, IN

2. Location of property (including address) (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code)  
 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360

3. Name of land contact  
 Bob Lemay

4. Mailing address of contact (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code)  
 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360

5. Telephone number of contact  
 (219) 229-6344

6. Home telephone number of contact  
 (219) 874-6916

7. E-mail address of contact  
 blemay@gmail.com

8. Are you willing to employ the services of a Hunt Coordinator to administer and oversee an urban deer hunting program in your community? (Note that certified coordinators work in cooperation with landowners, and you will retain control over where hunting takes place, when, how, and to whom, as long as there is no conflict with public health regulations.)  
 Yes  No

9a. Have the deer disease coordinator and any relevant certifications held by your coordinator (i.e. DNR Civil Compliance, WACCA, etc.)  
 Paul Fithian - NBEF Certified, 10 archery deer harvests. Kevren Flemington - 50 deer harvests

9b. County in which hunt will take place  
 LaPorte

10. Have you previously received a Deer Reduction Order?  
 Yes  No

11. Please provide a brief history of deer-related conflicts in the area. If any, did associated management efforts include supporting the expansion where possible (number of deer harvested per year, interbreed ratio of fertility damage, number of deer-related injuries per year, etc.). Monthly complaints from homeowners on commercial plantings/garden destruction and other deer issues. Only sightings of deer throughout the community. Long Beach Police have reported 62 incidents involving deer since 2016. LaPorte County has reported an average of 27 cases of Lyme disease per year over the past 5 years.

12. Total size of the property (in acres)  
 660 acres

13. Please describe the areas that would be available for deer hunting (include a map indicating areas available for hunting). Include type of land currently used (land area (forest, trees, park, prairie, etc.) that can be used as the average for most deer habitat use. Long Beach Moon Valley area, Long Beach Country Club, and Long Beach private residence select properties. Northern boundary is housing on Lake Michigan with multiple beach access points, cottages, and deer beach. Specific hunting site locations will be determined over summer surveys. Current plan is to establish 10 elevated stands at lower deer travel paths. See attached Supplemental Information.

14. Is there a local ordinance that prohibits hunting or the discharge of firearms or projectiles in your community?  
 Yes  No

15. If you answered "yes" to the last question, can a special exemption be gained to allow for the use of firearms/projectiles for deer management purposes?  
 Yes  No

16. Who and general agreement would you be willing to allow hunters to harvest deer (e.g. firearms, maintaining firearms, bows, crossbows)?  
 Archery - Traditional Bow, Compound Bow, Cross Bow

17. Please specify the allowable range (month, day, year) you would be willing to allow hunter access in your community (list specific dates). Note that hunter access seasons open through firearms, muzzleloader, and sporting arms seasons, and is available through the website below. Dates should only extend during deer hunting season.  
 Deer Reduction - September 16, 2021 to January 31, 2022  
 Archery - October 1, 2021 to January 2, 2022  
 Special Antlerless - December 26, 2021 to January 2, 2022

17a. On these dates, hunting will be allowed on:  
 Weekdays only  Weekends only  Every day  Time (check one)  Morning only  Any time  Other (please explain):

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**Long Beach CHAP Form 56258 Supplemental Information**

**Background**  
 Rapid growth in urban deer population is a problem in Long Beach, IN and needs to be managed. The Town offices receive at least one complaint per month from residents. Many residents see deer daily on their property. LaPorte County has reported an average of 27 cases of Lyme disease per year over the past 5 years.

Long Beach Police have reported 62 incidents involving deer since 2016:

Year	Injured/impaled	Found dead	Car/deer accident	Other
2016	1	1	1	1
2017	1	1	1	1
2018	1	1	1	1
2019	1	1	1	1
2020	1	1	1	1
2021	1	1	1	1

20. Total funding requested per hunting season (Maximum of \$25,000 per hunting season)  
 \$25,000

**CONFIRMATION**  
 By electronically signing and dating this document, the undersigned confirms the information provided is accurate and all conditions of the permit will be followed. The undersigned also confirms they are the legal owner of the property described above or have legal authority to make decisions for the property described above. If the undersigned is acting as a legal representative of a homeowners association, lake association, or other governing body that acts on behalf of the other landowners, the undersigned confirms that the said representative or board has the legal authority to act on their behalf.

Signature: *Paul Fithian* Date (month, day, year): 3/17/21  
 Printed name: Paul Fithian, P.D.

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2020	1	1	1	1
2021	1	1	1	1

**Archery Hunt Area**  
 Total area to be hunted encompasses 538 acres of property within the town of Long Beach. Current plan is for 10 stands to be placed in Long Beach owned sections of Moon Valley and select private residences. Long Beach Country Club, located within Long Beach, is excluded from the hunted area. All areas are in a Deer Reduction Zone and shown on the overview below:

**Town of Long Beach**  
 - 665 acres land  
 - 45 acres water  
 - 62 acres Long Beach Country Club  
 - 538 acres net hunting land

Paul Fithian  
 May 2021

- All state hunting laws and regulations will be followed throughout this program. Archers may use traditional bows, compound bows, or cross bows while hunting.
- No guns/shooting
- Areas hunted will include 538 acres in Long Beach sections of Moon Valley and select private residences. Long Beach Country Club is excluded from the hunted area.

# Scope of program

- **Committee**
  - Deer Reduction Coordinators Paul Fithian / Kevin Flemington
  - Town Council representative John Wall
  
- **Needed from Long Beach**
  - Funding of \$5,000. Expenses incurred will be documented
    - a) Tree stands for archers, estimated 10 needed
    - b) 3D target to administer proficiency tests
    - c) Misc. supplies as needed
    - d) License fees of \$24 per deer that each archer harvests in Long Beach
  - Space for off-season storage of stands, target, etc.
  - Legal help for hunter liability release
  - Ordinance change
  
- **Measurable Goals**
  - Zero safety incidents
  - Tally of deer harvested each year
  - Hunter success rate
  - Reduction of resident deer complaints
  - LB Police documentation of reduced deer incidents

# Role of Deer Reduction Coordinator(s)

- 1) Create and maintain ***Guidelines for Deer Hunting in Long Beach***, a one source document that can be distributed to interested parties. This document will also be a cohesive set of requirements for the archers to follow when participating in the program
- 2) Create and maintain a ***Long Beach Deer Hunt Incident Report*** system, a tool to document incidents, determine root cause, and communicate for learning to residents/archers.
- 3) Develop a list of qualified archers to participate in the program
- 4) Scout hunting areas and install tree stands for use by the archers while deer hunting
- 5) Administer an objective proficiency test to insure archers are qualified to hunt in Long Beach
- 6) Fill out DNR Form 56258 Grant Application - Community Hunting Access Program and submit to Long Beach Town Council by 31 March each year to enable Long Beach to receive grant money from the DNR
- 7) Manager archer participation in the provided tree stands using Google Calendar
- 8) Document and track hunter success during the season
- 9) Develop final report and submit to the DNR CHAP office in February of each year to document final tallies and hunter participation
- 10) Remove tree stands by February 15 at end of season
- 11) Manage meetings with the Long Beach Deer Reduction Committee as needed during the course of the program
- 12) Assist archers and residents as needed throughout the program
- 13) Distribute license fees to archers for each deer harvested in Long Beach



## **Next Steps**

- Deer Reduction Program approved at May 10 Town Council meeting
- Meet with Deer Reduction Committee to review specifics and tailor as needed
- Implement program