



**Department of
Natural Resources**

ohiodnr.gov

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Columbus, Ohio 43229
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Special Conditions Letter for Deer Damage Control Permit #27910

October 1, 2024

Nick Derico
Mill Creek Metroparks
7574 Columbiana Canfield Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406

Dear Mr. Derico,

Your request for a deer damage control permit to conduct a white-tailed deer population management program within the Mill Creek Metroparks in Mahoning County has been received and thoroughly reviewed in accordance with the requirements of Ohio Administrative Code 1501:31-15-08 and Ohio's Deer Damage Procedure (Procedure 58). Your proposal request focusing on vegetative analysis within the park creates a baseline assessment for working towards vegetative management goals within the park. In addition to the vegetative analysis in your request, the multiple site visits and continued conversations about deer management within your parks have helped justify the need for the use of a Deer Damage Control Permit (DDCP) to assist in managing the deer population within the Mill Creek Metroparks.

The Division of Wildlife issues DDCP's to address situations where the use of hunting has not or cannot adequately address identified issues. The Division of Wildlife appreciates that the park district has begun utilizing hunting in several of their park properties. Where hunting cannot easily be utilized as a deer management tool, such as Mill Creek Proper, the use of DDCP's provide an alternative to traditional hunting as a deer management tool. Further, DDCP's can supplement traditional hunting on properties where additional deer removals are needed.

After several site visits to the park over the last nine (9) months, including the most recent on September 26, 2024, and careful consideration, evaluation, and analysis of information from my modeling and site visits I am approving the request of 75 deer. Because your deer management program is still young, we will collectively need to continue to monitor the deer numbers and their impacts, including this management season, to allow us to make appropriate management decisions that work towards the parks management goals. This continued monitoring will allow us to understand how deer management effort levels within the parks affects future deer management needs.



Please be aware of the following additional stipulations of the permit:

1. Due to a research project in South Euclid, any ear tagged deer or deer with a collar that are shot, or observed, should be reported to Geoff Westerfield at Geoffrey.westerfield@dnr.state.oh.us within 24 hours of it being shot or observed.
2. Technical direction and assistance by Ohio Division of Wildlife personnel may be periodically given during the implementation of the permit.
3. The use of drones or thermal imagery devices are permitted to be used to identify deer.
4. There is no restriction on the hours when deer may be shot. In addition, deer may be shot during any open deer hunting season.
5. No more than 40% of the total deer harvested under this permit may be antlered deer. Any antlers from deer shot must be removed and must be destroyed, or disposed of by landfill, by the staff of the person this permit was issued to or a contractor operating under this permit. No antlers taken under authority of this permit may be possessed by anyone other than that until they are destroyed or disposed of, and no one thereafter.
6. A final written report detailing the results of the deer reduction effort must be provided to Geoff Westerfield by email no later than May 1st of the year the permit expires using the supplied template from the Division of Wildlife. The report shall include at least the following:
 - a. Results for any disease testing (ex. CWD) done on any of the deer shot.
 - b. Summary of sex (male or female) and age (<1 year, 1 year, 2-3 year old, and 4+ old) for all deer shot. The Division of Wildlife can provide information about how to age deer if requested.
 - c. Total pounds of meat donated and which donation facility accepted the deer meat.
 - d. For any deer not donated to a facility, a list of who was receipted each of the deer.
7. Prior to a deer leaving city limits, each deer must have a tag with this permit number on it. This tag must remain on the deer until it reaches a processing facility or is given to someone.



8. Deer shot may not use funds from a hunter donation program (ex. FHFH, Sportsmen Against Hunter, etc.) to cover costs for any part of your deer management program, however hunter donation programs may be utilized to facilitate the donation of the deer and/or deer meat.
9. Any deer shot as part of this permit must be reported within 3 business days of the deer being shot using the online system described within the permit. When reporting each deer, the first name of the shooter should be who shot the deer (ex. USDA, PD, contractor name, etc.) and the last name should reference the location where it was shot (ex. Water Treatment, Smith Rd, park name, unit name, etc.).

It should be noted that white-tailed deer populations are regulated by the Division of Wildlife across the state using harvest management and if not controlled the populations can exceed both the sociological and biological carrying capacities. For this reason, the Division of Wildlife supports programs like this one which strive to balance the number of deer to the available habitat while also assisting residents with management for sociological goals.

Sincerely,

Geoff Westerfield
Assistant Wildlife Management Supervisor

cc: Tom Frank, Mahoning County Wildlife Officer
Scott Peters, Wildlife Management Supervisor
Scott Angelo, District Manager
John Paul Seman, USDA-Wildlife Services

Control Permit Number: 27910
Key: 64009551641

Division of Wildlife
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
DEER DAMAGE CONTROL PERMIT

DNR 9004

The following permit is issued to:

Nick Derico

(330) 702-3000

(Name of Landowner, Lessee, or Agent)

(Phone No. w/Area Code)

7574 Columbiana Canfield Rd.

Canfield

44406

(Mailing Address)

(City)

(Zip Code)

This permit may be utilized on the following properties in Mahoning County:

Address (closest road intersection if no address)

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing Address (if checked)
2. Various Mill Creek MetroParks Lands
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.

Only the below listed shooters may be present while pursuing deer utilizing this Deer Damage Control Permit:

- All shooters (except for Ohio resident landowners, their spouses, and children OR someone holding a Commercial Nuisance Wild Animal Control License) must have a current Ohio hunting license to take deer under this permit.
- All shooters are subject to a background check and may be denied as a shooter if they have been convicted of a prior wildlife or weapons offense.

Shooter's Legal Name	Date of Birth
1. USDA Wildlife Services	1/1/2000
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

This permit shall be in effect from **October 01, 2024** to **March 31, 2025**

This permit authorizes the killing of a total of **75** deer on properties listed on this permit.

The following types of deer may be killed: Antlerless deer Antlered deer

The following must be notified: (not required to notify if "N/A" is written).

before shooting each day: **N/A** at ()

after shooting each day with the number of deer shot: **N/A** at ()

Special conditions of this permit: **Special conditions are outlined in the letter emailed to you and shall be attached to this permit.**

ND
(Initials)

I acknowledge that if I am not the landowner, I must have written permission from the landowner prior to utilizing this permit to conduct control activities on the listed property(ies).

ND
(Initials)

I certify that I have read and understood all of the rules and conditions for the use of this permit listed on the front and back of this permit. Further, I understand that any failure to comply with all of the provisions of this permit will result in its immediate revocation and that any misuse of this permit will result in prosecution. I also understand that this permit does not supersede, and I must adhere to, any local laws, rules, or ordinances that pertain to the properties where this permit will be utilized.

ND
(Initials)

I certify that all statements made by me in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and that I understand that knowingly and willfully providing false information and applying for this permit/license is a violation of Section 2921.13 of the Ohio Revised Code for which I am subject to arrest.

Nick Derico *10/3/24*
 (Signature of Landowner, Lessee, or Agent) (Date)

PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. The permittee will be responsible for providing a copy of this permit to all shooters. Shooters must possess a copy of this permit and, if required, a valid hunting license when operating under authority of this permit.
2. This permit may be utilized from sunrise to midnight unless otherwise noted in the special conditions section of this permit.
3. This permit may NOT be utilized during any open deer gun season unless otherwise noted in the special conditions section of this permit.
4. The permit does NOT allow shooting from a motor vehicle contrary to ORC 2923.16.
5. The permittee shall attempt to make arrangements for deer killed to be consumed or used as the person issuing the permit directs. All deer not given away, kept by the permittee/landowner/listed shooter must be disposed of pursuant to ORC 941.14. Deer or parts (excluding antlers) thereof given to anyone must be accompanied with a copy of the Deer Damage Carcass Tag.
6. Prior to moving a deer killed under this permit, the shooter shall either create a Deer Damage Carcass tag for each deer killed or report the deer online as stated on page 3 of this permit. No shooter shall leave a deer carcass unattended unless the completed Deer Damage Carcass tag or Deer Damage Permanent Tag number is attached to the carcass. The completed Deer Damage Carcass tag or Deer Damage Permanent Tag number shall remain on the carcass until final disposition. You MUST check the deer in using one the methods described on page 3 of this permit within 5 business days of the deer being killed.
7. All antlers must be removed from each antlered deer killed under the authority of this permit within 24 hours of the deer being killed and destroyed or buried within seven days of the deer being killed. Under no circumstances may antlers from a deer killed under authority of this permit be possessed by anyone after being destroyed or buried.
8. Pursuant to OAC 1501:31-15-08 this permit is subject to revocation if the permittee and/or a shooter violates any of the listed conditions of this permit or an investigation by the Division of Wildlife determines a violation of ORC 1533.171 has occurred.
9. The permittee understands that the Division of Wildlife will provide the names of Deer Damage Control Permit holders to anyone upon request per ORC 149.43.
10. In granting this Deer Damage Control Permit, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife authorizes the permittee and/or permittee's agent(s) to shoot deer in order to reduce the effects of damage inflicted upon the permit holder's crops and/or property. The State of Ohio, Department of Natural Resources does not limit the scope of shooting activities allowed unless expressly prohibited and/or regulated by the stated "Conditions" of this permit, nor does it warrant any shooting activity conducted by the permittee and/or permittee's agent(s) to be safe, legal and applicable for the circumstances and/or locality for which this permit was issued.



By accepting this permit, the permittee and/or permittee's agent(s) assumes full responsibility for conducting all shooting activities in a safe, legal and responsible manner and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Ohio-Department of Natural Resources, it's employees, officers, and agents from all liability associated with personal injury and/or property damage, loss and expense, including, but not limited to, damages, legal expenses and cost of defense, in any matter arising from the permittee's shooting activities.

For any questions regarding this permit, you can contact the person that issued you this permit
OR
1-800-WILDLIFE and ask to be directed to someone handling deer damage in your county



Step 1 – TAGGING THE DEER

Every person who kills a deer under this permit must immediately make a Deer Damage Carcass Tag with the shooter's name, date and time of kill, and permit number (see example below). This Deer Damage Carcass Tag must be placed on the deer once the shooter leaves the deer unattended at a residence or is delivered to a processor.

 <h2 style="margin: 0;">Deer Damage Carcass Tag</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife</p> 			
<p style="font-size: small;">The permittee shall attempt to make arrangements for deer killed to be consumed or used as the person issuing the permit directs. All deer not given away, kept by the permittee/landowner/shooter must be disposed of pursuant to ORC 941.14. Deer or parts (excluding antlers) thereof given to anyone must be accompanied by a copy of this carcass tag.</p>			
<p>You can make copies and use this tag or make up your own with the same information below on it</p>			
Shooter's name: _____			
Date of Kill: _____			
Time of Kill: _____			
Deer Damage Permit #: _____			
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Antlered</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless</td><td style="text-align: center;">Points:</td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Antlered	<input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless	Points:
<input type="checkbox"/> Antlered	<input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless	Points:	

Step 2 – REPORTING THE DEER

Within 5 business days of a deer killed on a Deer Damage Control Permit you **MUST** report it to the Division of Wildlife. There are 2 options for reporting your deer:



- 1) The easiest and quickest option is to report your deer online at <http://apps.ohiodnr.gov/wildlife/wildlifedamage/tagentry> (you will need the permit and key number, located on the permit, to report your kill)



- 2) Don't have internet? Check your deer by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE. You can call Mon-Fri. between 8am-5pm.

Step 3 – WHAT TO DO WITH THE DEER

- If the deer has antlers, remove them and dispose of them according to the permit conditions.
- If you take a deer killed on a Deer Damage Permit to a processor for processing, you must provide them a copy of the Deer Damage Carcass Tag.
- If the deer is not getting utilized, properly dispose of the deer according to the permit conditions.