M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Deer Management Program A Work in Progress Since 1995

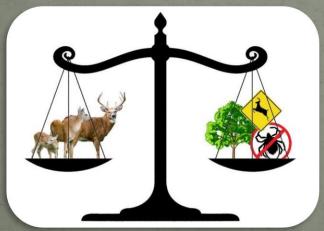
M-NCPP

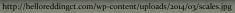
White-tailed Deer Populations and People

Balance is Key for Deer and Deer-Human Interaction

- o Deer in balance with natural resources/habitats
 - At or below Biological Carrying Capacity
- o Deer in balance with human interests
 - At or below the Cultural Carrying Capacity (the number of deer that people will tolerate)
- Overabundance = Unsustainable



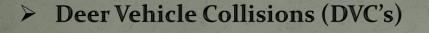




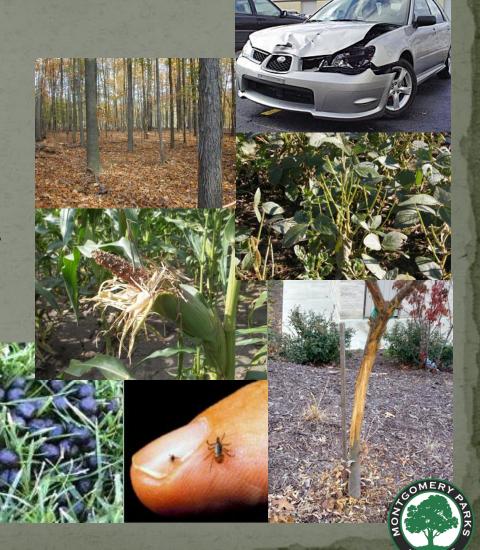




Impacts of Overabundant Deer Populations



- > Damage to Natural Vegetation
- > Damage to Crops
- > Damage to Landscaping
- **→** Feces in Private Lawns/Play Areas
- > Concerns about Disease



Recognizing a Problem - Working Toward a Solution

1993 White-tailed Deer Management Task Force

• Study & Make Recommendations for action

Montgomery County Deer Management Work Group

• Multi-agency committee to address deer management concerns across MC

1995 Comprehensive Management Plan for Whitetailed Deer in Montgomery County, MD

Annual Report & Recommendations

www.parksdeermanagement.org







Deer Population Management

Deer Population Management Options

- Lethal Deer Population Management
 - Filling ecological need for predation
 - Hunting, Sharpshooting, Capture/Euthanasia
- Non-Lethal Population Management
 - Exclusion, Education/Outreach, Strategic Plantings etc.
 - Immunocontraception & Surgical Sterilization
 - Still largely research based/testing
 - o Following progress and evaluating potential

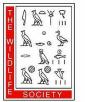














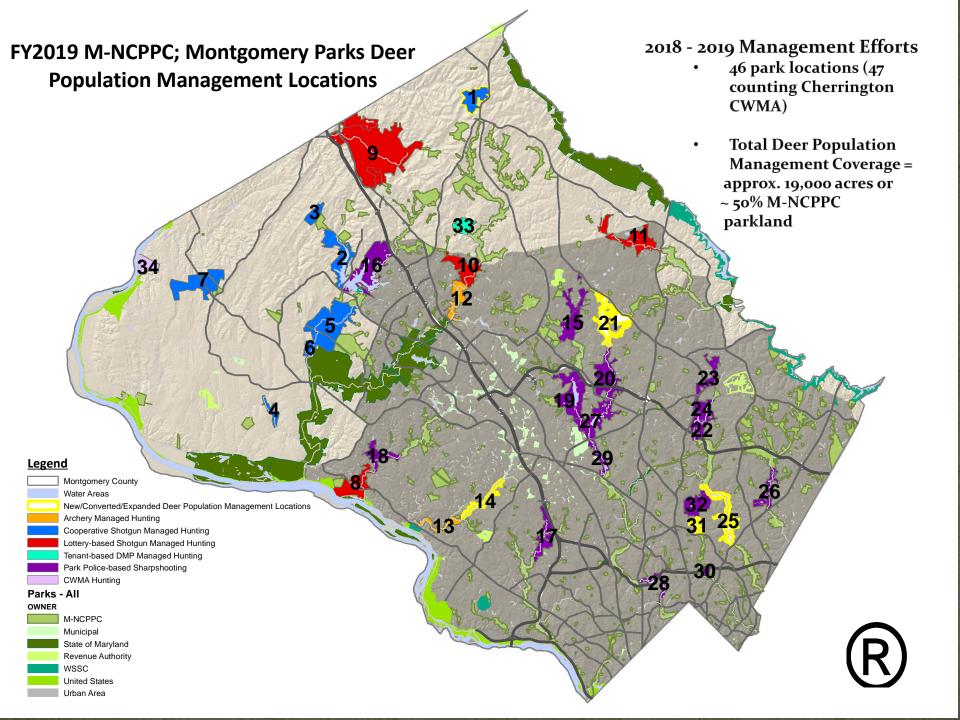




M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Deer Population Management Strategies

- > Lottery-based Managed Deer Hunting Program
- > Cooperative Managed Deer Hunting Program
- > Tenant-based Managed Deer Hunting Program
- > Archery Managed Deer Hunting Program
- > Park Police-based Sharpshooting Program



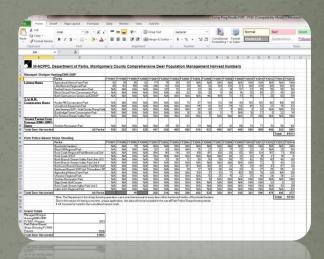


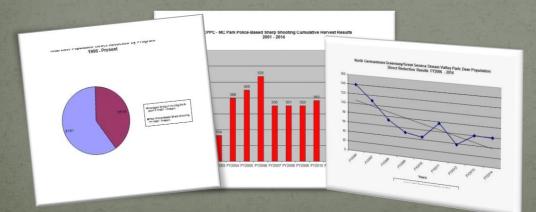
M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Deer Population Management Results

Total Harvest 1996 – 2018 = 18,482

Breakdown

- ➤ Lottery-based Managed Hunting: 5,912
- Cooperative Managed Hunting: 3,261
- Tenant-based Managed Hunting: 1,031
- > Archery Managed Hunting: 198
- ➤ Park Police-based Sharpshooting: 8,080



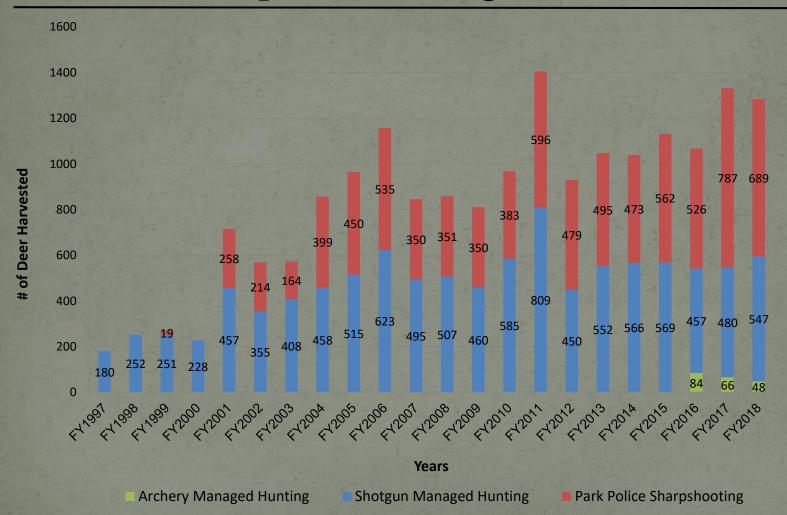


Avg. Annual Harvest 1996 – 2004 = ~450

Avg. Annual Harvest 2004 – 2016 = ~1,000



M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Deer Population Management Results





M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Deer Population Management Results

Total Venison Donation =

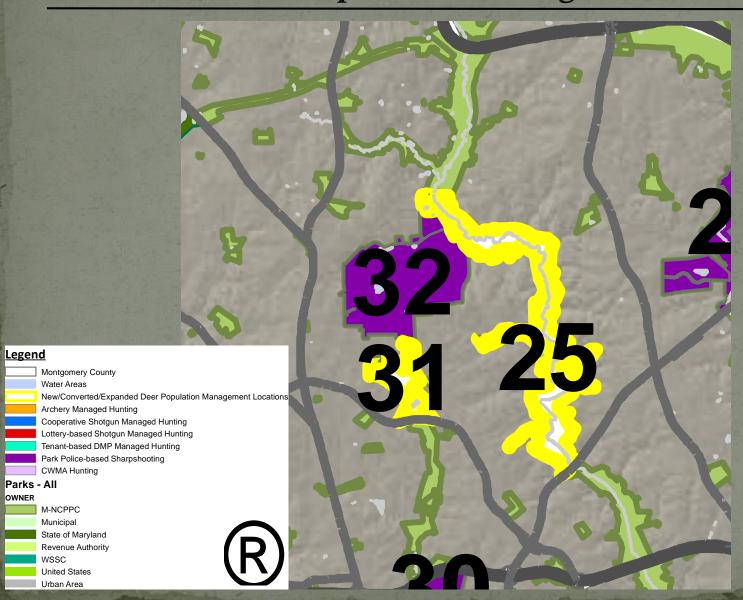
- o 8,168 donated deer
- o 290,590 lbs of meat
- 1,162,360 servings (1/4 lb)







Kemp Mill Area Deer Population Management



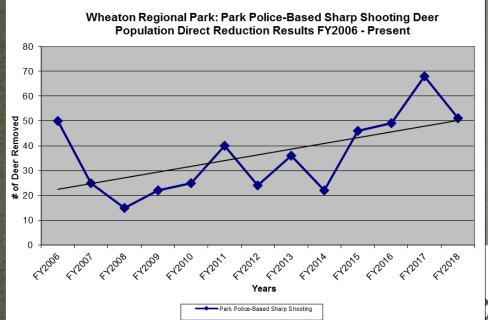
Kemp Mill Area Deer Population Management

- ➤ Wheaton Regional Park: ~ 540 acres
- ➤ Northwest Branch SVP Unit 4: ~ 400 acres
- ➤ Sligo Creek SVP Unit 5: ~ 85 acres
- ➤ Not far to the east = MLK/Paint Branch SVU 5&6: ~ 360

Total area of population management: 1,385 acres or 2.16 mi²

* New 2018 - 2019

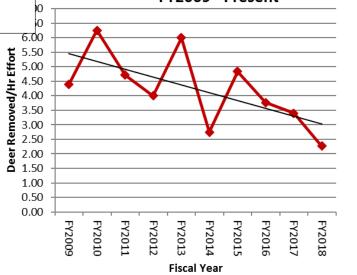
Wheaton Regional Park Deer Population Management Results



Managed from 2006 - Present

Total Deer Removal: 473

Deer Harvest Per Hour of Mobile Shooting Effort FY2009 - Present

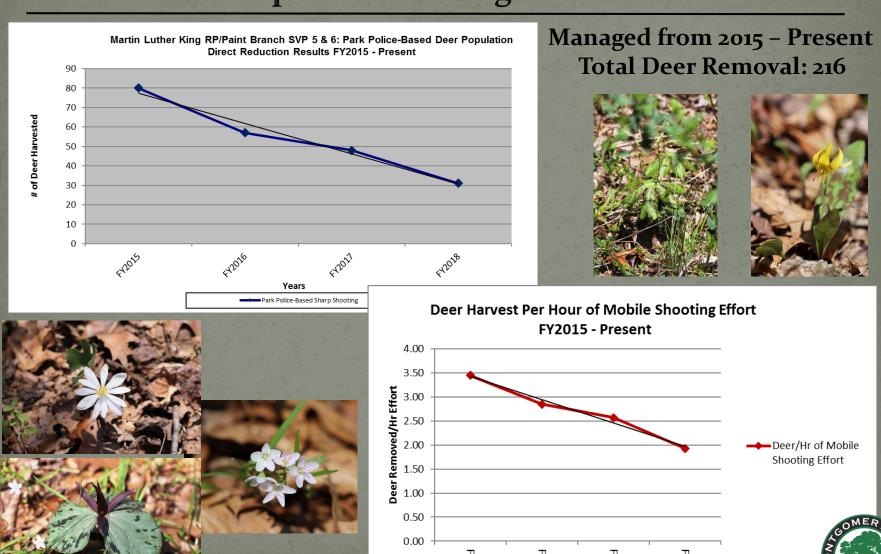




Deer/Hr of Mobile Shooting

Effort

Paint Branch SVU 5 & 6/MLK RP Deer Population Management Results



Fiscal Year

Kemp Mill Area Deer Population Management

PUBLIC NOTICE

BLIC NOTICE



Deer Population Management Expansion Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park Unit 4

Project Description

In an effort to address localized, public safety, ecological, and social impacts of white-tailed deer, M-NCPPC; Montgomery Parks plans to expand existing Park Police-based sharpshooting deer population management program efforts to include Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park Unit 4 [between Randolph Rd and Columbia Pike (Rte. 29), Silver Spring].

Beginning January, 2019 (January – March, annually), Specially trained and certified Park Police officers will lethally remove deer from this location, at night, while the park is closed to the public.

Note: Park closure to be 6:00PM – 6:00AM on predetermined, scheduled weeks. Please visit www.parksdeermanagement.org for further details regarding park closure and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). Yellow and black "Park Notice" closure signs will also be posted.

Your input is valuable! To ask questions or make comments please include your full name and address and send to:

Email: MCP-deermanagement@montgomeryparks.org

US Mail: Montgomery Parks Deer Management 12535 Milestone Manor Lane Germantown, MD 20876



UBLIC NOTICE

MONTGOMERY PARKS DEER MANAGEMENT

Deer Population Management Expansion Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park Unit 5

Project Description

In an effort to address localized, public safety, ecological, and social impacts of white-tailed deer, M-NCPPC; Montgomery Parks plans to expand existing Park Police-based sharpshooting deer population management program efforts to include Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park Unit 5 [between Arcola Ave. and University Blvd., Sliver Spring].

Beginning January, 2019 (January – March, annually), Specially trained and certified Park Police officers will lethally remove deer from this location, at night, while the park is closed to the public.

Note: Park closure to be 6:00PM – 6:00AM on predetermined, scheduled weeks. Please visit www.parksdeermanagement.org for further details regarding park closure and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). Yellow and black "Park Notice" closure signs will also be posted.

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US Mail: Montgomery Parks

Deer Management 12535 Milestone Manor Lane Germantown, MD 20876



Project Locator Map

Known Impacts & Citizen Complaint

- ➤ Habitat degradation and simplification consistent with like areas
- ➤ Deer Vehicle Collisions (DVC's) High incident roadways: Randolph Rd., Arcola Ave., University Blvd., Colesville Rd.
- Private property damage Landscaping Damage, Erosion
- Public Health Concerns Disease potential, Increased Feces
- Physical Threat
- **Citizen Complaint**

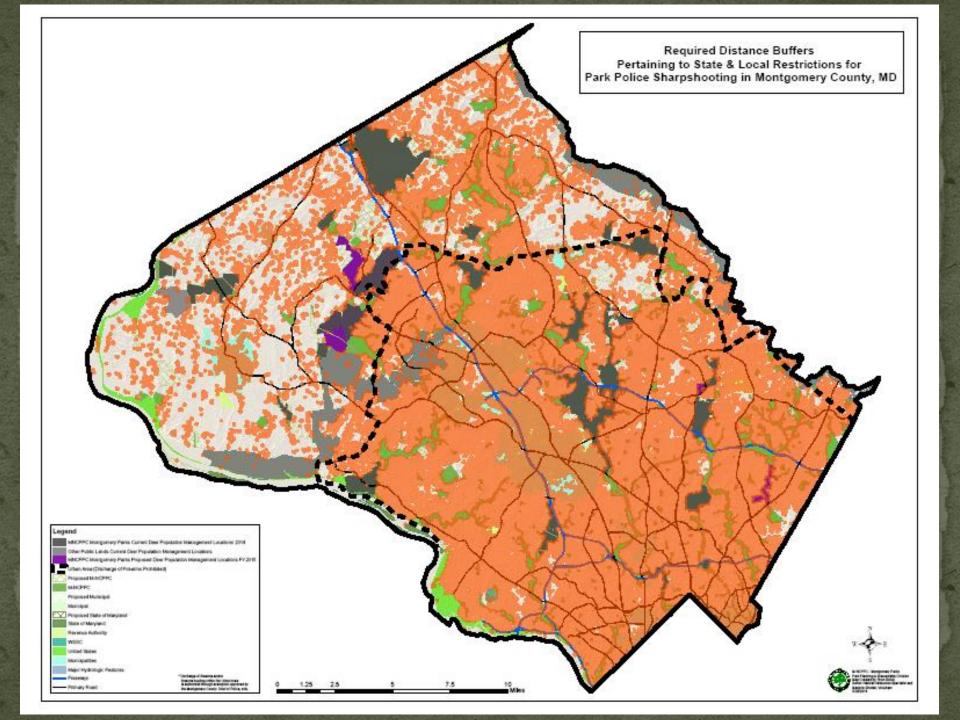
Deer Population Surveillance/Monitoring

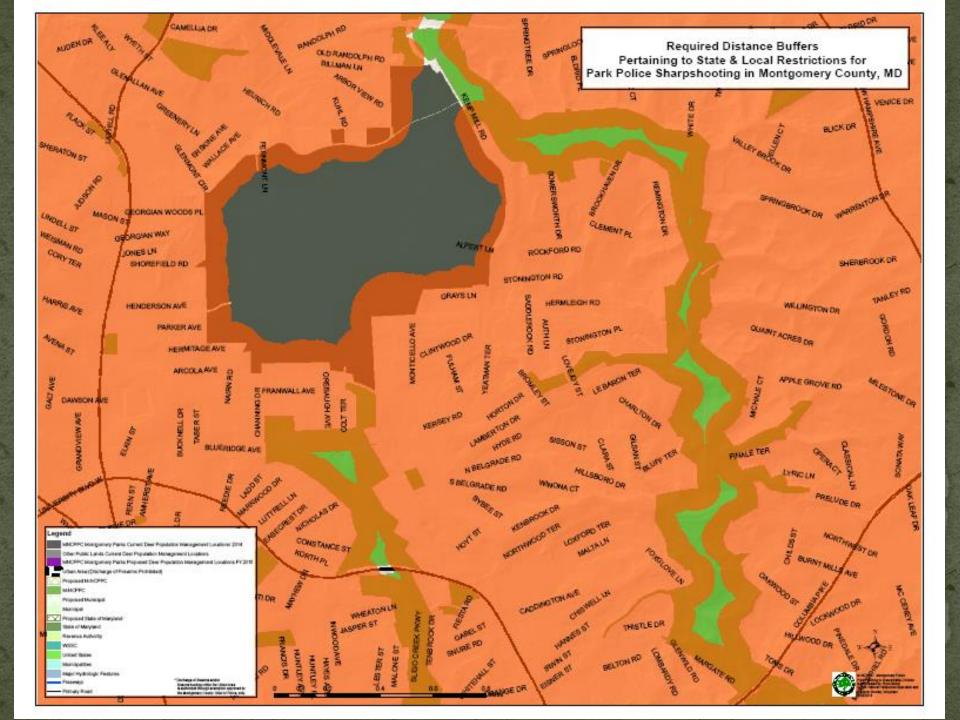
Sligo Creek SVU 3 – 5: Most recent survey (summer 2015) = ~ 103/mi²

Northwest Branch SVU 4: Surveyed summer 2015, 2016 & 2017 = ~ 150/ mi²









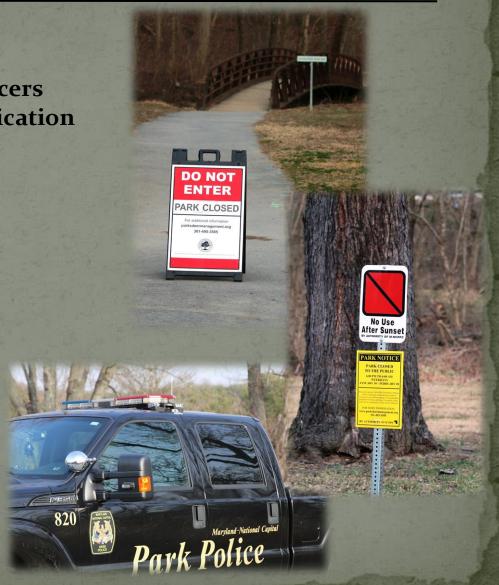
Site Assessment/Planning



Safety Through Preparation & Excellence

Safety = Priority #1

- Highly Trained & Qualified Officers
 - MPCTC certification/qualification
 - Wildlife Ecologists
 - Licensed Deer Cooperator
- > Public Notification
 - Web/Social Media
 - Signage
- > Site Selection
- > Security
 - Signage
 - Communication
 - Personnel
- > Location/Shot selection
 - Restricted (Safety) Zone
 - Solid Backstop Identified



Operational Notes

- > Preparations
- > Episodic operation
- Officer and staff presence
 - Security
 - > Lights
 - Noise vehicles, shots, voices
- > Deer are removed as discretely as possible
 - Processing off-site
- > Deer (meat) donated
 - Capital Area Food Bank







