



Animal Welfare Institute

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Please Help Protect Deer from Needless Suffering and Death in Fairfax County!

July 20, 2010

Dear Humanitarian:

Last year Fairfax County's Park Authority held two archery deer hunts in our county parks; one at Colvin Run and the other at Laurel Hill. It appears that they are poised to do so again if Fairfax County residents opposed to the hunts don't make their voices heard. Fortunately we have an opportunity to submit comments on the subject via a survey offered by the county government. You can access the survey at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/survey/deermanagement.htm>.

Please fill out the survey before August 1st and tell Fairfax County that the inhumane archery hunts are unnecessary and intolerable.



Officials are careful to prevent the taking of photographs such as this of the deer who are killed by bow hunting in Fairfax County.

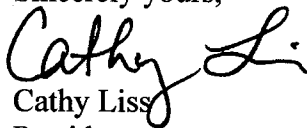
You should be aware that the survey is poorly prepared and not surprisingly is biased in its approach. In addition, it falsely claims that "Fertility control is not currently available as a population control method for wildlife." Further, there appears to be neither a means to ensure that those who complete the survey are actually Fairfax County residents nor is there a means to prevent multiple submissions by the same individual. Nonetheless it is important to use the survey to the best of our ability to let the members of the Board of Supervisors know how we feel about white-tailed deer in Fairfax County.

For your information, there are myriad humane alternatives to killing deer. PZP, an FDA authorized deer contraceptive has been used to successfully manage deer for the past 17 years. Both the National Park Service and the U.S. Department of Commerce have employed this practical solution. Additional methods include use of fright devices with lights or sprinklers to, as the name implies, scare the animals away; exclusion by use of tall or electric fences; and repellents such as ammonia.

Fairfax County should be a leader in demonstrating its ability to manage urban white-tailed deer using means that are practical, publically acceptable and humane. Please fill out the survey as soon as possible and pass this information on to your family, friends and co-workers who are residents of Fairfax County.

With much appreciation for your support of the deer, I am

Sincerely yours,


Cathy Liss
President