

# THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING

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## MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting - is to accomplish what its name says in the shortest possible time. Understanding that abolishing hunting entails a process, a series of steps taken and not a single action that would effect our goal overnight, a time frame cannot be established. We hope for building a succession of wins, and if not wins immediately then at least a succession of stirrings of consciousness. We hope to encourage those who are still silent to speak out, awakening community after community about the heavy hand of state and federal wildlife management agencies. We hope to alter whatever belief still exists that sport hunters are conservationists and champions of the environment to a realization that they are destroyers of wildlife and ecosystems in the narrow and broad sense. Where the natural feeling for wildlife doesn't exist, we strive to engender among citizens outrage that their own rights are violated by legal hunting and their quality-of-life diminished.

**Luke A. Dommer** was the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He was its president from 1976 until his passing in August 1992. Mr. Dommer's research and publications served as the foundation for the anti-hunting movement. He remains, through this organization, an invaluable and dedicated warrior in the battle to save wild animals, the environment, and general public from the silent economy that encourages and preys on the passion of a few to kill the wildlife that belongs to all.

### Wildlife Watch Inc.

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### C.A.S.H. COURIER

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## Quality Deer Management: When Plain Old Killing Isn't Enough

BY JOE MIELE



As we know, hunters talk a good game about preventing overpopulation, halting the spread of disease, and putting "organic meat" on the table. Some will go as far as to say that hunting is not just what they do but it's who they are, and nearly all hunters will say that their objective is not to kill an animal to put "its" head on the wall of the living room, but that their activity as a hunter makes them a vital part of the ecosystem. They have deluded themselves into believing that they have taken the place of a deer's natural predators whom they extirpated long ago.

Some hunters satisfy their blood lust by killing animals confined to a fenced-in area in a canned hunt, but

this type of hunting is not universally accepted by the hunting fraternity. The "old guard," and those who learned from them, tend to see canned hunting as an affront to "real" hunting where the animal is at least given a scintilla of a chance to get away. So what are hunters to do when they want to kill animals with impressive antlers but they don't want to look like slob?

"Back in the day" when there were only Native Americans in what is now the continental United States, the number of whitetail deer was about 20 million. Unrestricted hunting for hides, meat, and pest control reduced that number to about 500,000 by the late 1800's, and at that time restrictions began to be put into place to prevent hunters from pushing native deer into extinction. Today the population has returned to about 20 million, thanks to the intentional manipulation of deer herds by hunting agencies as a way to provide hunters with animals to kill.

Even with 20 million deer to kill, hunters complain about the lack of trophy bucks and, shockingly, sometimes about the lack of any deer at all to hunt. Interestingly, they may be right about trophy bucks as the typical state-sponsored hunting program results in 80-95% of all male deer killed when they are about 1½ years old.

Please see **QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT**, Page 3

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I listen to our members and help advocates who are passionate about protecting wildlife and stopping the spread of hunting, I realize that our ranks are not only growing, but are becoming more sophisticated about the subject of wildlife management for hunting. I also see that we are becoming politically more educated and active. That's all going on while hunters' ranks are dwindling.



I am grateful that through C.A.S.H. I come into contact with compassionate people willing to stand up for what is right, many making personal sacrifices to achieve peace for wildlife. Our members and supporters fall into that category. I am gratified that we can help when you are willing to travel inconvenient distances to attend wildlife management meetings to speak out on behalf of wildlife in the face of major opposition. I know that, when needed, you rally neighbors and friends for demonstrations, and you present local officials with studies and facts about wildlife behavior, and the unwanted and unneeded effect that hunting has on the public, environment, and the animals. We publish the *Courier* for a number of reasons:

**There is no other publication like it.** It falls into a unique niche.

**The concerns, experiences, or serious research of our members and col-**

**leagues often have no other outlet for their findings, accounts, or feelings.**

Reporters, and others in a position to spread the word, visit our website and can search subjects from our home page to answer many of their questions.

Further, there are compassionate people who are trying to understand the subject of wildlife management and hunting better, and our in-depth articles provide a wealth of information.

Unfortunately, there are trolls and spies who twist the information we provide to further their violent, selfish, and anti-wildlife agenda. That's the nature of the battle we wage – we're the protectors and they are the exploiters so motivated by self-interest that the lives and well being of other species mean nothing to them. **There's nothing we can do about the nature of sport hunters, but we can certainly push for change in the way wildlife management agencies operate.**

In Florida, where the Fish and Game agency has voted to resume bear hunting after a long time without it, wildlife activists, and citizens concerned with the well being of the bears, and the safety of their neighborhoods, have been using logic and science to refute the scaremongering tactics of the hunting community. You've heard it before from hunters – "It's only a matter of time before the bears eat your children" - and sadly there are still public officials who don't understand that state hunting

agencies are more interested in advancing the cancer of recreational hunting than they are in trying to resolve any issues that may arise from human-wildlife conflicts. **As long as the issues remain unresolved, due to the hunters' obstructionism, their hunting programs will be easier to push through.**

Then there are the inconsistent arguments heard from the hunters. One minute they complain of a lack of animals to kill, and the next they talk about overpopulation and habitat degradation. They talk about hunting for population control and putting food on the table, and then they put Quality Deer Management (QDM) programs in place so they can manipulate the herd to produce more trophy-quality animals. Read the article on *Quality Deer Management* in this issue of the *Courier* for information on what these programs are about. If you've not heard of QDM before, you'll learn why some hunters love it and why others prefer to kill as many animals as possible. It's what C.A.S.H. calls "quantity deer hunting." In both cases, the deer lose their precious lives.

We trust that you will find this issue of the *Courier* helpful.

**Know that we'll never stop fighting until wild animals win peace.**

Thanks for everything you do.

For the wildlife,

Joe

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER...

- **Added hundreds of additional accidents** to our hunting accident section. We urge our readers to send us accident reports as you discover them. Please send to [cash@abolishsportshunting.org](mailto:cash@abolishsportshunting.org)
- **Advised activists in Florida about how to fight an upcoming bear hunt.** We helped them network with other experienced activists who are conducting bear protection campaigns.
- Wrote numerous letters to the editor of many newspapers, and commented on online articles on issues ranging from canned hunting, to the recruitment of child hunters, to breeding mutant exotic wildlife for hunting operations, and more.
- Maintained our popular Facebook page. Please visit us at: [www.facebook.com/pages/Committee-to-Abolish-Sport-Hunting-CASH/102318025860?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Committee-to-Abolish-Sport-Hunting-CASH/102318025860?fref=ts)
- Twice appeared as a guest on **Animals Today Radio with Dr. Lori Kirshner** - [www.animalstodayradio.com/](http://www.animalstodayradio.com/)
- Provided data and facts for activists in NY who are fighting community-based deer hunting programs.
- Evaluated Virginia legislation for a group to take political action at the request of member **Richard Firth**
- **Wrote comments for Rye** – see a shortened version in this newsletter on pages 12 and 13.
- And more!

# Quality Deer Management

Continued from page 1



## ENTER “QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT” – OR QDM FOR SHORT.

What is it?

QDM is a program that uses hunting restrictions, intentional feeding, and habitat manipulation to increase the size, age, and antler spread of deer in the area being managed. Through manipulating the density and sex ratio of deer in a given area, and by modifying habitat through planting flora favorable to deer, and by distributing supplements, **QDM practitioners can create an environment where they can produce larger and stronger bucks with “trophy” antler spreads.**

In order to build a successful QDM enterprise (one that builds a population of “trophy” deer that the owner can turn into cash by charging hunters large fees, sometimes in the thousands of dollars, for the privilege of killing them), several principles must be implemented:

1. Restrict the number of deer killed by age and sex;
2. Manipulate habitat by establishing food plots and forage areas that contain 12 to 18 percent protein and abundant levels of calcium, phosphorous, and other important nutrients;
3. Manage hunters to keep the Neanderthals from shooting everything that moves;
4. Collect data and keep records charting the progress

For QDM to work, hunters must stop salivating and resist the urge to kill younger bucks in order to allow them to survive to maturity when they

will then exhibit the traits they seek. **While spokespersons for QDM claim the goals of the program are not about putting a “monster buck” behind every tree, we find it hard to see any other objective after researching the program, its implementation, and its results.**

To successfully run a QDM enterprise, whether private or government via the state wildlife management agencies, land owners (state owned or private) need to manipulate the age, nutrition, and genetics of the animals present on the property.

A buck will typically grow his first set of antlers at 1½ years of age. By age 5½ they have reached their peak weight, and by 6½ years old they have achieved their maximum antler size. Under the provisions of typical hunting programs set up by state wildlife agencies, it is rare that deer will survive to maturity. QDM proponents change the rules of the hunt and allow young bucks to live. This is difficult for most hunters with the “I’m gonna kill every buck I see ‘cuz if I don’t kill ‘em someone else will” attitude and, as you’ll read later, many hunters are fed up with QDM despite the fact that QDM gives them exactly what they want. Hey, we never said hunters were very bright.

Since QDM hunters want animals with impressive antlers, they pay attention to the nutrition needed to allow deer to grow to their full potential.

**Typical hunting seasons and programs may satisfy the greater number of hunters who are looking to kill anything at all, but for the trophy seeker these types of hunting seasons are less than adequate.**

QDM lowers the ratio of does to bucks and increases the likelihood that deer are impregnated early in the breeding season. These deer will give birth earlier in the year and their fawns are more likely to survive and thrive, though the population will not grow as quickly as a traditionally hunted population will (QDM is not concerned

with sheer numbers).

QDM is a program that takes years to implement, and creating an environment where deer are allowed to mature and grow to their maximum potential often takes the cooperation of several landowners if it is to work, since pretty much everything the state does makes such management objectives impossible.



## Feeding Plots

Property managers must agree to certain key elements of QDM habitat manipulation since developing larger, older, and healthier deer is dependent upon the availability of higher quality food and having adequate cover for the animals. Deer feel safe in thick-cover but they eat at food plots or edge habitat.

Experts at QDMA recommend food plots to be primarily made up of perennial clover. Clover will provide a protein level exceeding 20% and deer find it irresistible. Plants in the brassica family (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and mustards) are great for deer as their starches turn to sugar after a few frosts, while wheat and rye is also highly attractive to deer these plants give deer plenty of calories for optimal growth. Minerals are as important as protein for optimal antler growth, so many hunters involved in QDM will leave mineralized pellets out for deer during the summer. Fruit trees are also favored by deer, and many QDM managers will plant pear trees, since they will yield generous amounts of fruit. Crabapple trees are also a

Please see **QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT Page 4**

favorite for deer.

## Hunting and "Culling"

Of course, hunting must take place



every season because what good is QDM without the fun of blowing away an animal who wants to live? Even before a QDM program starts showing results, hunters continue to express their violent desires by killing animals. They do, however, limit the killing of bucks with good starting antler points and spreads, and those who show the potential for larger than typical body growth by making deer with eight points or less (four points to a side) off limits to hunters. Eighty percent of bucks under two years of age and 25% of those between two and three years of age will be protected. **Likewise, restricting the killing of males with antler spreads of 15" or less can protect about 95 percent of yearlings and up to 40 percent of 2½ year olds for future killing.**

But QDM is not only about male deer and antlers as killing females is the prime factor that affects deer density, sex ratio, and habitat quality of a given area. **Both typical game managers and QDM game managers know that killing equal numbers of bucks and does can maintain a deer population, killing more does than bucks decreases the population, and killing more bucks than does increases the population.**

QDM managers seek to kill the "correct" number of does to achieve their goals.

QDM practitioners will put age restrictions on the animals they kill, and knowing the physical characteristics of deer bodies at different ages can aid in a fairly good estimate of how old a deer is. There are many ways to do this, from the muscle structure and facial characteristics to the general size and shape of the animal

QDM hunters must know the age of the animals they are killing if QDM is to be successful and if they are to bring home the best trophies with all the bragging rights that go with them.

**QDM takes years to implement and it is part science, part sport. Its objectives are needlessly violent and like all forms of recreational hunting it is a form of animal exploitation, torture, abuse that extends to the additionally victimized public.**

After all this, you would think that hunters would be happy with QDM and with the opportunity to kill larger deer with "trophy" antlers, right? Guess again. Many hunters are fed up with QDM as they feel it puts too many restrictions on their hunting trips. They are forced to pass on deer they would love to kill because they happen to be too young or because their antlers are not developed enough.

Some property owners balk at the prospect of purchasing QDM insurance, something the Quality Deer Management Association (a group that promotes QDM philosophy and implementation) offers as an option to its dues paying members. Property owners are encouraged to obtain \$1,000,000 in liability insurance (ironic, considering how often they try to convince us that hunting is a safe sport) and \$100,000 in fire insurance. Hunters love to start fires to keep warm--not too smart in a forest.

Some hunters criticize QDM because it has no effect on the transmission of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), a disease common to deer that is caused by a virus passed along

One year can make a difference.



by the biting midge (a small fly). This is curious, as traditional hunting methods do not address the spread of EHD either. Other hunters become impatient with having to wait several years before seeing the antler results they want. It seems that you can't please all killers.

Quality Deer Management is another way to manipulate deer for the benefit of hunters. It has a few objectives which are to provide trophy hunting opportunities and a source of income for property managers, and its implementation requires the killing of young fawns and immature does. A successful program will strengthen the sport of hunting more than it helps the deer. Hunters will say that QDM is one way that wildlife benefits from their activity, but as we've seen countless times before, it is little more than another way for hunters to secure bragging rights. **Quality Deer Management is another form of animal abuse and the misappropriation of funds, the betrayal of public trust, and the waste of wildlife that belongs to all. It causes the delay of management for wildlife watching which would bring in far more revenue and benefit the general public.**

Sources:

- Quality Deer Management Association
- <http://www.whitetailsinsight.com/>
- <http://www.outdoorchannel.com/>
- Quality Deer Management: The Basics and Beyond by Charles J. Alsheimer
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- University of Missouri Extension
- [www.petersonshunting.com](http://www.petersonshunting.com)
- [www.biggamelogic.com](http://www.biggamelogic.com)

Joe Miele is the President of **C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting.**

# QDM IS PERSONAL

BY ANNE MULLER

In the fall, shortly before hunting was to start, I looked up to see this boy from my window. I had taken



Photos by Anne Muller

photos of him when he was younger and now... my heart jumped. He had gone from being a little "spike buck" to a handsome boy. He was so gentle that you can see the squirrels continue their lunch without even looking up.

My heart jumped for two reasons: First of all, I wasn't used to seeing a buck with antlers that size; secondly, I realized that QDM had to be going on not terribly far from where we lived! He definitely would be "permissibly" shot this fall.

Then, to my utter surprise, a second

buck of his size joined him. Once they got over the fact that a human with her eyes popping out of her head and her jaw dropping was watching them, they started to "play" with each other. How often we see two bucks in battle in the hunter magazines, but these two guys were just **enjoying each other's company!** I thought they would become so entangled that they'd never be able to separate from each other, but they figured it out effortlessly. Amazingly, I later noticed that a couple of does were not too far away – and the bucks couldn't have cared less. Why are we led to believe that animals live merely for sex and reproduction? It's not true! There's so much more to them. Play is a big part of their lives and I believe that it's not merely a preparation for sparing with another male over a female, but just for the enjoyment of the activity. It's like our playing

chess or doing judo just for the sake of the activity. What an exciting moment that contained so many revelations... before turning to concern, and then prayer for their safety.

It's time to start taking back "our" wildlife from the killers. It's a long road ahead, but I feel that as the camera documents animal behavior to a degree that has never happened before, we

will realize that animals are not merely things or species, but individuals who share



Two boys playing

many of our characteristics. But, of course, I'm speaking to the choir.

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**Anne Muller, Wildlife Watch**

## NY BILL TO BAN THE IMPORT, POSSESSION, SALE, AND TRANSPORTATION OF THE AFRICAN "BIG 5": ELEPHANTS, LIONS, LEOPARDS, CAPE BUFFALO, AND BLACK AND WHITE RHINOS

The bill was drafted by **Friends of Animals (FOA)**. In FOA's online announcement of the bill it is stated, *The primary reason that each of these species is facing extinction is human sport hunting, ...Many of these hunts are purchased by Americans, and the trophies are imported into or through the state of New York. Domestic legislation...is vital to any hope of long-term survival of these species.*

**Peter Muller of LOHV-NY** was one of several presenters at a press conference in New York City on April 8. He praised the bill calling it a "giant step toward saving the African Big 5."

For a detailed explanation of the bill and to contact **Edita Birnkrant**, Campaign Director, FOA visit:

<http://friendsofanimals.org/news/2015/april/foa-drafts-bill-protect-five-african-species>



**Left to right, front row: Joyce Friedman, HSUS NYC; Peter Muller, LOHV-NY; John DiLeonardo, LION and LOHVLI, Edita Birnkrant FOA, NYS Senator Tony Avella, NYS Senator George Latimer, David Karopkin, GoosewatchNYC**

# The Socio-Economic Shifts Associated With Declining Number of Hunters in the US

BY PETER MULLER

It has become a fairly common place observation that hunting is decreasing. The questions that are still up for discussion are “Why?” “How fast?” and “Is the trend irreversible?”

It is acknowledged by the government agencies that hunting is in fact decreasing.

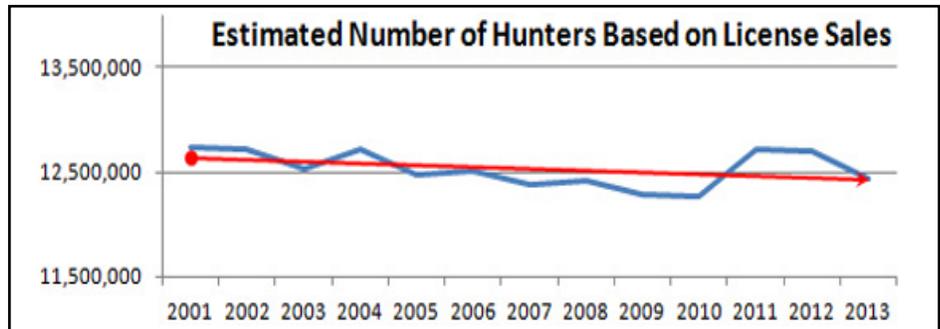
Some agencies of the federal and state governments have an interest in keeping hunting going. **Even though by all accounts the number of people who hunt each year is steadily declining, these agencies try to reinterpret and introduce novel methods of counting, and even initiate new programs to retain and recruit new hunters.** We would like to examine these efforts to see if any of them can reasonably be expected to stave off the inevitable demise of hunting in our time.

There are two types of efforts by these agencies we have to consider:

1. Fudging the numbers (whistling in the dark) to not give up in light of the facts
2. Recruiting and retaining more hunters.

One of the standard references for information on the number of hunters is a series of publications entitled “The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.” The surveys are conducted by the Census Bureau for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The series was started in 1955; a new volume has been issued about every five years since then. **For the 1991 issue, the methodology of collecting data was changed so the data from prior issues cannot be used to find trends of change of rates of participation in hunting. In the 2011 publication the methodology of surveying was again changed to include more data from counties where there were larger sales of hunting licenses, and also to include unlicensed hunters, poachers, as hunters. So the numbers of the 2011 were again not useful for finding trends increases or decreases of participation in hunting.**

To get a sequence of fairly accurate numbers reflecting hunting participation in recent years I used the number of annual license sales reported by the states to the federal government. The states report their hunting license sales to the federal government every year in order to establish their portion of the distribution of the Pittman-Robertson fund. I started with the license sales for all 50 states from 2001 through 2013. Of course not everybody who buys a license goes hunting in that year. In 2001 and 2006 there were also methodologically consistent publications of



*The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.* In those years the number of hunters reported were about 85% percent of the license sales. Assuming that the 85% of license sales is a good approximation of the actual number of hunters for that year-- I plotted the line curve of hunters from 2001 through 2013. The statistical trendline (in red) shows a clear downward slope.

The basic facts are told by the graph:

1. The number of hunters is decreasing.
2. There is an uptick around 2011 that did not really decisively turn down again until 2013.

We would like to explore underlying socio-economic shifts in the country that will allow us to explain:

1. the steady decline of the numbers of active hunters
2. the uptick in the year 2011
3. the resumption of the downturn after 2012
4. Are the measures taken by state and federal government agencies to maintain a higher level of hunting participation successes or failures?

From *Responsive Management*, Page 30

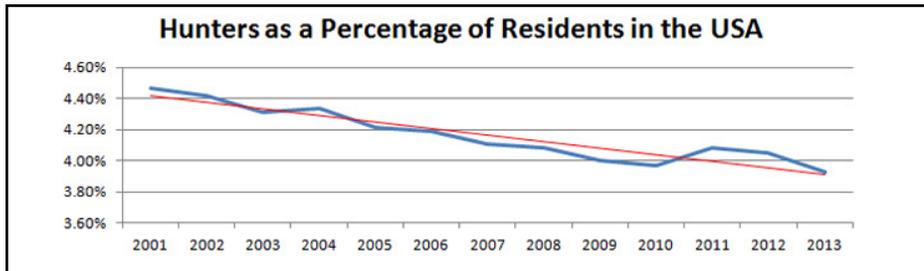
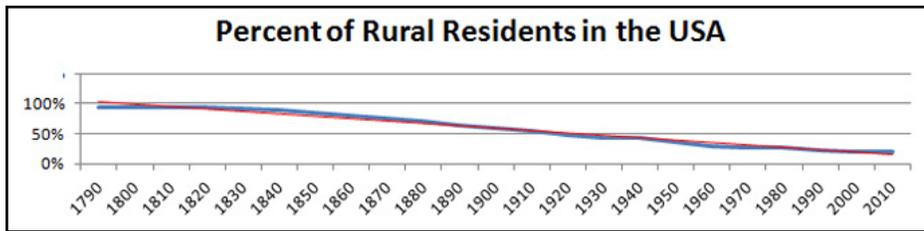
(see “Sources” on page 7)

*Changing demographic factors in the U.S. are driving the trend of decreasing hunting participation. One of the most important trends is the increasing urbanization of the U.S. Most of the population now lives in non-rural housing, with increasing urbanization expected to continue for some time. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 1950, 36% of the U.S. population lived in a rural area. This percentage went down to 30% in 1960, to 25% by 1990, and down to 22% in 2000. This demographic trend is important because hunting participation is positively correlated with living in a rural area (RM 2004a, 2005a, 2006b). To compound this factor, an analysis of National Survey data found that hunter recruitment was down sharply among urban residents, relative to residents of non-urban areas (Leonard 2007). Since that trend seems to be a major fac-*

Please see **SOCIO-ECONOMIC SHIFTS Page 7**

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC SHIFTS

Continued from page 6



nation of them: that increased urbanization simply takes away access and available lands, and/or that the increased construction activity could leave less time for some hunters to go hunting (Phase III found that many hunters work in the construction industry)

From 2010 through 2011 the nation experienced a major economic downturn with a corresponding reduction in new housing starts. The most common occupation of hunters is in the building trades, there was less pressure to not hunt that year due to job commitments which is usually the major reason for active hunters to not hunt in a

particular year. With the recovery of the economy in 2012 including new housing construction the downward trend of number and percentage of hunters resumed.

**In summary, hunting is declining in number of hunters as well as percentage of hunters of the total population. There may be an occasional uptick due to temporary underlying socio-economic conditions. The general trend is steadily downward, regardless of the attempts to recruit and retain a more diverse population of hunters.**

tor in recruiting new hunters, the recruitment number is declining steadily. Urban and suburban children are much less likely to be interested in hunting than children growing up in a predominantly rural environment. The percent and number of hunters has been and is currently highly correlated among both existing and newly recruited hunters. Since the percent of rural residents is steadily declining -- percentage of hunters including new recruits to hunters is steadily also a steadily declining --

The most significant summary measure is not the number of hunters but the hunters as a percentage of the population which is declining steadily with again a small up-tic in 2011. The percentage of hunters of the US population is dipping below 4% -- from there it is just a matter of time before hunting will advance to the dustbin of history.

The most likely underlying socio-economic explanation of uptick in the number and percent in 2011 and the subsequent resumption of the downturn in 2013 is found in

Responsive Management. Pg17-18  
*Among those variables, the rate of new housing starts was significantly related to decreased license sales: as housing starts increased, hunting license sales decreased. The correlation could be a result of two things or a combi-*

particular year. With the recovery of the economy in 2012 including new housing construction the downward trend of number and percentage of hunters resumed.

**In summary, hunting is declining in number of hunters as well as percentage of hunters of the total population. There may be an occasional uptick due to temporary underlying socio-economic conditions. The general trend is steadily downward, regardless of the attempts to recruit and retain a more diverse population of hunters.**

Peter Muller is President of C.A.S.H.

### Sources;

1. Responsive Management/National Shooting Sports Foundation. 2008. The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports: Research-Based Recruitment and Retention Strategies. Produced for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Grant Agreement CT-M-6-0. Harrisonburg, VA
2. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006

## Safari Club International - Pure Evil



The article by Lydia Millet is breathtakingly inspirational. It should cause a perceptual shift of "stuffed animals" (the real kind), and lead to investigations of the Safari Club International, their censure, incarceration, and ultimately their demise. A world of conscience cannot allow such evil to exist. **Just as world shock demands that the murder of individuals and destruction of world**

**treasures by ISIS be stopped, there should be equal outrage over the destruction by SCI of the world's wildlife treasure - and action taken to stop it.** We trust that any response by SCI to this brilliant article will help to dig its grave. See this important article here:

www.nytimes.com/2015/04/05/opinion/sunday/stuffed-animals-with-an-agenda.html?mc-edit\_nt\_20150404&lid=1781252&intemail=yr\_r\_2

**See pg. 5 – The Avella bill to stop imports of “trophy” Big 5 will go a long way toward curbing the killing of African wildlife that SCI promotes.**

# THE NEW JERSEY NATURE CONSERVANCY EXPOSED FOR UNETHICAL CONDUCT



© Tony Campbell

## Nature Conservancy magnet

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) recently conducted a solicitation initiative featuring an adorable black bear cub clinging to a tree. Its mission, **“Protecting Nature, Preserving Life”** (see photo above).

Further, to thank donors for their contribution of a certain amount, the Nature Conservancy sends a tote bag with the same adorable bear cub and mission statement.

There is no doubt that these solicitations send the message that **The Nature Conservancy protects and preserves bears.**

The Nature Conservancy’s website boasts, **“You can Trust the Conservancy”** and that its conduct is **“beyond reproach.”**

In February 2015, **PUBLIC TRUST Wildlife Management**, in an effort to gain support for the protection of black bears, brought TNC’s solicitation campaign and its message

to the attention of The NJ Nature Conservancy’s executive director, Dr. Barbara Brummer, as well as board members of The Nature Conservancy. This was critical, as Dr. Barbara Brummer, as chair of the Endangered and Non-Game Species Committee, is also a trustee of the Fish Game Council.

However, at the **NJ Fish and Game Council meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd**, Dr. Barbara Brummer voted FOR the proposed amendments to expand the lethal management of bears in the Comprehensive Black Bear Management Plan. **Dr. Brummer voted FOR the bow hunting of bears and cubs, and extended seasons.....a polar contrast to its solicitation message and stated mission!**

After investigation by **PUBLIC TRUST Wildlife Management** and via the Open Public Records Act Law it was revealed that **The Nature Conservancy cumulatively was granted \$322,382.24** from 2010 to 2013, by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection which houses the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

**Barbara Brummer’s conduct, as the chief officer of The NJ Nature Conservancy--- recipient of these funds strongly suggests a quid pro quo relationship.**

When the DEP’s \$322,382.24 grant

BY JANET PISZAR  
was brought to the attention of Barbara Brummer, her comment was that, *‘this was from the Department of Environmental Protection, not the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and is a whole other department’.*

The unethical conduct of soliciting donations with an adorable bear cub photograph, and a mission statement of **“Protecting Nature, Preserving Life”**, along with claims that *“You can Trust the Conservancy,”* and *“we are beyond reproach”* must be exposed.

**Please spread this message far and wide:** The NJ Nature Conservancy supports the proposed recreational bow hunting of bears, yet uses images of adorable bear cubs intended to give the impression that they will protect and preserve the lives of bears. Clearly, they are **NOT** about **“protecting nature or preserving life”** and should be held accountable for their betrayal of the public trust.

Official complaints were lodged for unethical conduct with **Charity Navigator** and **Charity Watch.**

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**Janet Pizar**, is founder of **PUBLIC TRUST Wildlife Management**, est. 2011, PO Box 646, Chatham, NJ 07928.

The article has been reprinted with permission.

## KILLING BEARS IS NOT THE ANSWER

BY JOE MIELE

When your bears are facing brutal decisions by municipalities or the state, follow these steps:

- **Do not allow bear hunting to become a gun rights issue.** Keep the focus on the hunt and its inefficacy.

- **Stress that the bears who are entering residential areas are not going to be the ones who will be hunted.** The ones hunted will be living in suitable bear habitat and will have no reason to venture into the public eye. **People who are intentionally or inadvertently attracting them need to modify their own behavior voluntarily via education or because of local ordinances or state laws.**

- **Improper handling of household trash is the number one reason why bears will frequent an area.** People need to learn how to hang bird feeders properly, and they need to stop leaving out pet food for their dogs or cats. For a host of reasons, cats

should be kept indoors, and dogs should be outside only when supervised. **The cultural carrying capacity (public acceptance of wild animals) can be increased through education and countering scare-mongering with common sense.**

For more information, contact the **BEAR Group** in NJ [www.savenjbears.com/](http://www.savenjbears.com/) and the **North American Bear Center** in Ely, MN. [www.bear.org/website/](http://www.bear.org/website/)



*Next time, could you get some spaghetti?*

# NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS DENY A BAN ON WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS!

REPORTED BY TRISH SWAIN



Here in NV a total disrespect for wildlife.

On March 20th, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners voted to accept or reject a petition to ban coyote-killing contests in the state.

**Project Coyote** [www.projectcoyote.org](http://www.projectcoyote.org) put out the following speaking points:

- Coyote-killing contests are conducted for profit, entertainment, prizes, and simply for the “fun” of killing. In December 2014, the California Fish and Game Commission voted to close the loopholes that allowed the killing of wildlife for prizes and inducements – becoming the first in the nation to ban the practice for coyotes, foxes, bobcats and other species. Nevada should

follow California’s lead.

- Coyotes are often baited and lured with distress calls of pups or wounded prey, placing coyotes at an even greater and unfair disadvantage.

- No evidence exists showing that indiscriminate killing contests serve any effective wildlife management function. Coyote populations that are not exploited (e.g. hunted or trapped) form stable “extended family” social structures that naturally limit populations through defense of territory and the suppression of breeding by subordinate female members of the family group. **Indiscriminate killing of coyotes disrupts this social stability resulting in increased reproduction and pup survival.**

- Coyotes have been shown to provide ecosystem services that benefit humans, including the control of rodents and rabbits which compete with domestic livestock for forage and which are associated with diseases such as plague, hantavirus, tularemia and Lyme disease.

- **Coyote-killing contests perpetuate**

**ate a culture of violence and send the message to children that life has little value and that an entire species of animals is disposable.**

- Coyote-Killing contests put non-target wildlife, companion animals, and people at risk.

- A ban on coyote-killing contests in Nevada will not restrict the ability to protect property, including livestock, and will not undermine Second Amendment gun ownership rights, nor will it limit hunting in any other way.

**DESPITE ALL OF THE ABOVE, THE APPEAL WAS DENIED BY THE PEOPLE WHO PROFIT FROM THE KILLING OF OUR WILD ANIMALS.**

**Clearly, the time has come to change wildlife management practices and structure. It’s not working, the current system has failed. We, the public and wildlife need immediate relief.**

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**Trish Swain** is the founder of **Trailsafe** [www.trailsafe.org](http://www.trailsafe.org) and is Chair of LOHV-NV

## RELIGION MUST ALSO CARE FOR THE ANIMALS AS GOD’S CREATIONS

BY HERMAN LENZ

I don’t know of anyone who would freeze or starve to death today if hunting and trapping of animals were banned or outlawed. Most of the zealots who are in that game of cruelty are not in it for the “need,” but primarily because they think it’s fun to kill and wound, and cause misery to animals and birds. They’re desensitized to cruelty. **The most disturbing thing to me is that religion doesn’t condemn hunting when it’s not needed, rather religion puts its blessing on it.** ...Not so long ago, the rednecks ridiculed and scoffed at women’s rights and minority rights, but change came in anyway.



Wildlife management is done by hunters and trappers. Wouldn’t it be just as fair to have such management done by those concerned with the wel-

fare of individual animals?

Sadly, lawmakers ease and expand laws and regulations on cruelty to animals. Those who try to protect animals are ignored by lawmakers. At great expense, protectors have to try to work through the courts to get positive change, although judges are all too frequently biased in favor of the status quo. As much as the hunters invoke the Second Amendment to justify sport hunting, **sport hunting has nothing to do with the right to keep and bear arms.**

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**Herman Lenz** of Iowa is a longtime C.A.S.H. member.

## THE HEAVY HAND OF GOVERNMENT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES GIVES SUPPORT TO BRUTAL AND THUGGISH BEHAVIOR

We are clustering the next three articles to show how the heavy hand of wildlife management steals land and joy, and in the former case, especially from women. The problem is not merely localized, as you will see. Rather it's pervasive and ingrained in the agencies and their clients – the hunters and trappers – across the country. From the farms of Iowa to the rural south, and to the suburbs of New York, the cruel decisions to kill the wildlife that belongs to all prevails above the voices and legal rights of those who try in vain to protect wild animals and their own property. As wildlife is pushed into more populated areas, there are more witnesses and more human victims as well. We know that you will find these exposes appalling. We urge you to contact [cash@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:cash@abolishsporthunting.org) if you have a story to share, and/or if you would like to help bring these abuses to an end.

# AMBUSHED BETRAYED CHEATED BY TEATOWN LAKE RESERVATION

BY ANONYMOUS



When we moved to the Croton-Ossining-New Castle area junction in Westchester County, NY, in August of 2011, we were enchanted with the natural beauty of the area – it felt like “nature undisturbed.” It was quiet, surrounded by diverse flora and fauna. Featured were great outdoor spaces, and hiking trails very nearby, especially at Teatown Lake Reservation. Lovely and generous people greeted us. Seemingly like-minded people who enjoyed observing all the various creatures in the woods and leaving them alone warmly welcomed my family to the area.

My impression of Teatown Lake Reservation was that it was truly a nature preserve and a center for learning about nature, filled with people

who had a deep love of all animals – from the turtles crossing the roads to the chipmunks, to the beautiful deer. I was so happy to have such close proximity to Teatown and loved to walk my dogs around the lake. All members of my family enjoyed walking the trails there. We felt so fortunate to live here; it felt safe and peaceful. Beautiful and undisturbed.

Last year, that all changed.

With utter ruthlessness, with no concern for what the public/neighbors might have thought of the idea of a deer slaughter, with no interest in exploring humane options, I was informed via email on February 7, 2014 that the deer killing would begin that very evening.

Who deemed that people at Teatown had any right whatsoever to kill innocent creatures—especially with baiting and luring, then having sharpshooters aim their rifles, shoot, and then suffocate them; I found it excessively cruel.

The secretive nature of the whole ugly business—to what end, I ask? Studies have proven that the killing of the deer does not accomplish what the supporters purport that it does. There is actually a rebound effect because Mother Nature, in her wisdom, will replenish what has been eliminated. There was no public dialogue—no community meeting—in sum, no concern at all for what the

neighbors or members of the nature preserve felt about this ugliness. The timing seemed sinister to me, in that, by informing the members on the morning of the already planned slaughter, we would not have any time to stop it. When I read the actual details of what these deer must endure at the hands of their slaughterers, it aroused great anger and sadness in me. The deer never had a chance—the methods employed disgusted me.

Because of Teatown Lake Reservation's decision to continue with their plan, I elected to never renew our family's membership. They do not uphold what they mislead me to believe that they stood for. Where in the word “preserve” is the implication of killing? I felt betrayed and taken aback at the cruelty, inhumanity, and disregard for opposing views that Teatown's decision entailed.

And then things turned worse. This fall, just a few days before it was to start, I was notified by email and appalled at the decision of Teatown to add bow hunting on their land beginning October 1st. Again, there was no time for protest, and no time to hear opposing views. Were we given the courtesy of asking us if we approved

Please see  
**AMBUSHED, Page 11**

## AMBUSHED

Continued from page 10

of this in our backyards?

More importantly, what about the prolonged and inhumane suffering that is endured by an arrow that doesn't kill immediately. There have been reports of deer being found alive with arrows shot through various parts of their bodies in areas where bow hunting is permitted. Even the term, "bow hunting" seems to sound somewhat harmless. Let's call it what it is: being shot with a high powered bow and arrow. This is not a "sport". It is an excuse for barbarism. The deer have no chance. This is not an even match. By the time the bowhunters in tree-stands have the deer in their crosshairs, the deer have already lost.

Deer cannot flee in time because they are unable to detect the presence of a human until it is too late. In addition, Westchester County has instituted bow-hunting as of October 1st in a nearby neighborhood park, John Hand/Bald Mountain Park, which is adjacent to Teatown property. The 800+ acres of Teatown land is apparently not enough.

These developments have affected me greatly. Last winter there wasn't a night that went by, once I knew the slaughter had started, that I didn't envision the shooting and suffering of these beautiful creatures. The entire winter, brutal enough as it was, was made even more brutal in my mind when I imagined what was happening on Teatown land, nearly right in my backyard.

I find this activity to be inhumane, shortsighted, and cruel. It is sending the message that when one group deems a certain species of wildlife to be a nuisance, then it's ok to get as many people as possible with as many methods as possible to get rid of them.

My family and I have decided to move away from the area. The paradise that we envisioned is forever tainted by the cruel acts that Teatown, and now Westchester County have sanctioned.

**I will never be able to erase from my mind last winter when I waited to hear shots in the night. It will forever haunt me.**

-----  
Anonymous is a Croton-on-Hudson resident.

# HUNTERS CONFLICT WITH AND FRIGHTEN PROPERTY OWNERS

BY ANONYMOUS

We've been property managers on a 315 acre property in Western Mass. for more than 35 years. The land is under a Conservation Restriction owned by a large non-profit, which



has been monitoring wildlife around a pristine vernal pond via remote wildlife cameras.

They've gotten wonderful photos of bear, bobcats with kits, coyotes, fishers, deer, wild turkeys and raccoons. Over the years the property owners have supported our efforts to keep hunters out by posting the roughly 5-mile long border. It took awhile, but eventually incursions by hunters seemed to stop. We staple up bright, flexible plastic signs purchased by the hundreds on rolls, and use a small aluminum ladder to put them high on the trees, so they can be easily seen in the dense woods and are beyond the reach of vandals. Experience has taught us that despite legal require-

ments, many hunters believe that if the signs are not 50 feet apart they are not valid. We have even had hunters refuse to accept our verbal orders to leave the land. But the well-posted boundary has generally been an effective deterrent.

Late in October, the non-profit staffer checking her cameras reported finding another remote camera nailed to a tree near the vernal pond. This was obviously the work of hunters--several excellent photos of two camo-clad men and a dog turned up on the resident cameras.

**We removed the rogue camera, and sadly decided to remove the resident cameras as well, out of fear of retaliation. In the past few years gun advocates patronizing a local shooting range have become increasingly nasty and confrontational in our small town. We put a laminated notice on a signboard near the site of the hunters' camera, stating that this was protected land, no trespassing allowed, with our phone number. We said they**

**could have their camera back if they contacted us. Then we put up fresh signs along about a half-mile stretch where it seemed the illicit access was most likely. Since time was short we were not able to use a ladder for this posting, and when we went back to check the site a week later, nearly all the new signs had been torn down. We printed out the hunter photos and circulated them around town, trusting that the word will get out that this land is not only protected but patrolled, and that poaching will not be tolerated. This seems like an ominous development, for hunters to waltz boldly onto conservation land and destroy property despite a good-faith offer to return their illicit equipment. Next year we plan to repost the entire border, and be more vigilant. With 300 million guns out there and with increasing social class tension and resentment, we fear a new era of scofflaw behavior on the part of hunters may have started.**

# TURNING THE TABLES ON PROPERTY OWNERS WHO REPORT HUNTERS FOR TRESPASSING

BY MERLE WILSON

The Code of Iowa, Article 1 Section 6 reads: *All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation. The General Assembly shall not grant to any citizen or class of citizens privileges or immunities, which upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens, yet...*

Two years ago, a deer hunter who was trespassing on my property threatened to kill me. I first tried to call a DNR warden, but he was off duty, so I called the sheriff. They would do nothing.

**I offer this as proof that Iowa's DNR, along with sheriffs departments, have given hunters in Iowa "favorite son status."**

Iowa has two shotgun deer seasons in December. The first one is five days long, the second is ten days. During these seasons the DNR wardens take company time off. **If you need a warden, you won't find one during hunting season.** You'll get their cell phone messages telling you to call the state police. I did, in fact, call the state dis-

patcher last year about illegal hunting, and the dispatcher told me, "If I can find a DNR officer, I will have him call you." **Ninety-five minutes later, a warden called me and said, "Well, I am in your area, but I don't see anyone!" I replied, "No kidding, I can't believe they are gone!"**



Merle Wilson is from Iowa. He is a longtime C.A.S.H. member

## Comments on Wildlife Management in Rye, NY

Submitted by Wildlife Watch Inc. and the League of Humane Voters of NY

March 4, 2015

Contact: Anne Muller 914-388-5221 or Peter Muller 914-388-5224

Legislative bodies are often asked to make decisions, set policies or pass ordinances concerning matters with which they have no more than a passing acquaintance. At the same time, the advocates addressing the legislators seem extraordinarily passionate on opposite sides of the issue. Both sides have their accredited experts testifying on behalf of their respective views.

Currently, the Village of Hastings has an immunocontraception program in progress. It began last year, and is expected to continue through 2017. We suggest that it would be prudent to analyze the outcome of this program before taking steps in Rye.

On February 25th, the issue of how to deal with deer and coyotes in Westchester County was discussed at a meeting. The solution that had been suggested was to cull the deer and increase hunting of coyotes.

The flaw in this reasoning is that a hunt will not reduce the number of deer if we consider the population size beyond the immediate culling.

At first that seems counter-intuitive. Surely, we would think, if we kill 150 deer from a herd of 200 there will only be 50 deer left in that herd



Hastings immunocontraception project. From government website.

forevermore. This works quite well for marbles, but it's the wrong analogy when applied to wildlife reproduction and wildlife management. The reason is that deer have a breeding season in the fall of each year (called the "rut") in which does are impregnated and fawns are born the following spring. The reproduction cycle is influenced by hunting (which also takes place in the fall) in such a way that the herd that will exist in the spring is larger than the herd that existed in the fall before the hunt.

In a little more detail, this is what happens: The fecundity of does varies

directly with the amount of browse (food) available to the does during the rut. A population of deer that is in fact NOT being managed for keeping a continuing supply of deer for hunters will maintain its size by accommodating to the biological carrying capacity of its habitat, meaning the amount of browse that exists to feed the deer. If a shortage of browse is experienced during the rut, the does will go into estrus only once or twice – or not at all if there is a severe shortage of browse. If there is an abundance of browse, does will go into estrus four or even five times, and so have a much greater chance of becoming impregnated than during "lean years." Multiple births (twins and triplets) are much more common if there is abundant browse during the rut, and yearling does - does born in the spring of that year - will go into estrus, which they normally would not do. (REPRODUCTIVE DYNAMICS AMONG DISJUNCT WHITE-TAILED DEER HERDS IN FLORIDA; ANDREAS R. RICHTER, RONALD F. LABISKY,

Please see WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT, Page 13

# Wildlife Management

Continued from page 12

Journal of Wildlife Management 49(4):964-971)

What does hunting have to do with this? If you have a firearm hunting license in New York State, you are allowed to shoot one buck (there are all kinds of special rules and exceptions involving does for various regions, but basically that's the modus operandi). Let's assume the deer herd has 200 deer comprised of 100 does and 100 bucks (deer are born in a 50/50 gender ratio, but management for hunting skews the gender ratio normally in favor of females). Let's say we kill 50 bucks. We've now increased the browse for the surviving herd by 25%. The more abundant browse will signal a distorted message, and the fecundity of the does will increase to more than it should for the herd. The 50 "missing" bucks are hardly relevant to the reproduction of the herd, as a buck can easily service 10 does during the rut. The 100 does will produce fawns to the degree that the habitat can provide for them. In this illustration, there should be a herd of 250 deer – as indicated by the abundance of browse. In the spring there will be numerous multiple births and the herd size will exceed the original 200.

The DEC manages deer (and other game species) for hunters to have a continuing supply of wild animals to kill. To that end, there are both federal and state wildlife management areas where optimum conditions are created for increasing wildlife numbers. A quick look at the areas in Region 3 (which includes Westchester) shows at least 1,289 acres managed for high deer populations, not to mention wildlife management areas in neighboring Connecticut, or across the river for the same purpose. Deer have been known to swim across bodies of water. As deer leave the wildlife management areas and go into new places, they push the deer who had lived there out, and those continue to

push others out and into new areas. While wildlife management areas are situated in more rural areas, and hunting normally takes place in rural areas, the management for hunting contributes to higher populations and is definitely impacting suburbia. (Pennsylvania Game Commission Senior Elk Biologist Rawley Cogan "Goal of Pennsylvania hunt is a bigger herd" Buffalo News 9/16/01)

**We urge the members of this board to look at wildlife management for its impact on communities such as yours, and demand from the NYS DEC and your NYS legislators that wildlife management practices change for the sake of the public, and not be implemented solely for the sake of hunters and trappers, regardless of the money it brings to the state, because clearly this policy is depleting the income of the local communities that have to deal with the overflow.**

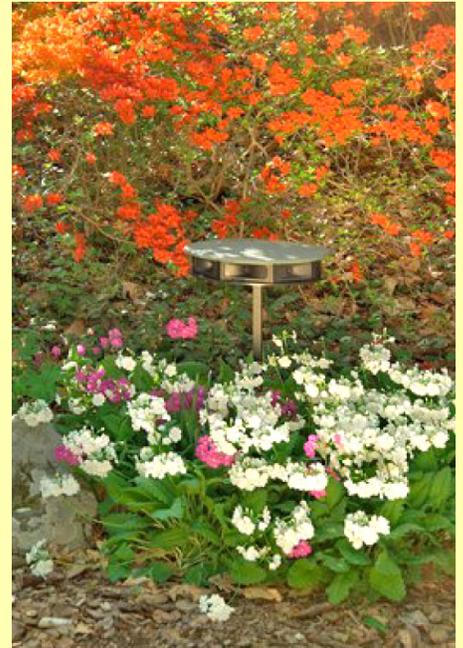
What then can we do to reduce the current size of the deer heard that is considered by some to be too large?

As we researched the fairly recent history of deer in Westchester, we found that the Village of Hastings is using immunocontraception. While the results will be analyzed over a four year period, it promises to be an effective method because it reduces the population of deer over a couple of years and beyond, yet doesn't trigger a higher birthrate.

Does can be darted with an immunocontraceptive agent, and they will not be able to reproduce for two years, after which time it can be repeated. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/WR12117>

We suggest following the completion of the Hastings immunocontraception program with a blue ribbon panel of unbiased wildlife experts who are unaffiliated with pro-hunting groups or agencies.

One of the comments in the 2009 Hastings Deer Committee Report was that the "committee" did not necessarily represent the community. They



<http://tinyurl.com/deertech> a product to dissuade deer

suggested a vote by the community. Certainly, a non-binding referendum could be held which would allow the entire community to express its position about such a contentious and emotionally charged matter.

In light of the fact that culling has not proven effective, [www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167587713002894](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167587713002894) we believe it would be prudent to allow Hastings to complete its immunocontraception program, which may - and hopefully will - become a model for Westchester County.

We further ask the board to recommend against the hunting and trapping of coyotes so that the indiscriminate destruction of the alpha pair does not trigger a higher population of coyotes. (See Coyote population growth increases in Eastern NC. John DeLuca MCB Camp Lejeune Supervisory Wildlife Biologist. The Globe, October 2, 2014.)

**Westchester deserves to fully understand the way wildlife management is operating today and how, for everyone's sake, it needs to start operating tomorrow.**

# ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO [CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.ORG](mailto:CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.ORG). WOULD YOU RATHER SNAIL MAIL YOUR QUESTION? SEND IT TO:

**ASK UNCLE JOE,  
P.O. Box 13815, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88013**

UNCLE JOE GETS A LOT OF MAIL SO DON'T BE OFFENDED IF HE CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE COURIER.

LETTERS ARE PRINTED AS RECEIVED. THEY ARE UNEDITED.

*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*I along with many hunters support animal rights and many charities. Your website is not devoted to protecting animals, you are a hate group who thinks you are better than everyone else. I really hope that you change your opinion about hunting and hunters.*

*Mike,  
Binghamton, NY*

Dear Mike:

Thanks for writing (really!). You don't seem to understand what animal rights is so I'll try to make it clear and concise. Animal rights is the recognition that animals should live their lives without being harmed, used, or otherwise exploited by people for reasons that are not absolutely necessary for one's own survival. Hunters like yourself are not hunting to stave off an imminent death, and that makes you a sport hunter (whether or not you eat parts of the animals you kill is pretty much irrelevant since you don't have to kill those animals in the first place). Sport Hunting is an atrocity that has no ethical defense.

As for our being a hate group that thinks we're better than everyone else, we beg to differ. C.A.S.H. recognizes the differences between species, but we do not feel superior to any. Ok - I think, in general, humans are more important than loa loa (a parasitic worm that lives in the eyes of people and other mammals), and I am not a fan of botflies either, but we've got no right to breed and kill wildlife for the purpose of providing ourselves entertainment.

Kind regards,  
Joe

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*Dear Uncle Joe -*

*Why was the bill to ban coyote hunting contests in New Mexico defeated? You had been working on that issue and when you and I spoke you told me the bill had bi-partisan support? Is the hunting lobby in New Mexico that strong? California recently banned hunting contests and I was looking forward us following their lead.*

*Alicia,  
Belen, NM*

Hi Alicia:

Yes the bill was defeated but it was not the hunting lobby that killed it - it was the special interests aligned with the state's agriculture industry that pressured key officials into defeating the bill. Spokespeople for the state's ranch-

ing industry argued that coyote killing contests (where the Neanderthal who kills the most coyotes during the contest period wins a prize - usually a shotgun or something else with which to kill animals) are useful in protecting livestock. I found it ironic that these ranchers were so concerned with "protecting" livestock, given that ranchers are often cited for animal cruelty in this state and others.

While the bill did have bipartisan support (wildlife issues can sometimes form strange alliances), the livestock lobby got its job done. Many local activists pointed out that if animal advocates didn't eat meat the livestock lobby wouldn't have so much power. We're not a vegan organization, but we clearly recognize the truth in that statement.

What's next? We're not sure. We're talking with one of the supporters of the defeated bill to see what can be done and we're encouraging NM voters to form a **League of Humane Voters** chapter. Visit: [www.lohv.org](http://www.lohv.org)

Peace, Uncle Joe

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*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*I LOVE!!!! your (Facebook) page! You guys post so much useful and helpful information and i appreciate the hard work that must go into ur research that u do to find that stuff. I have two questions and I hope u can reply I know ur busy... You posted an article about not having a limit on how many bucks a hunter can kill (in South Carolina)! My friends say hunting is from science so why would they allow unlimited buck hunting??? Also, whats the best thing i can do for the deer. I'm in high school and myself and two friends really want to help. I just got my license but I don't have a car yet. Thanks for ur hard work! I love animals and I love that you guys are around!!!!*

*LindseyAnn,  
Greenville, SC*

Dear LindseyAnn:

Thanks for writing! Your first question is very easy to answer. Anyone who understands deer biology will tell you that the easiest way to increase the deer population is to kill off the males. When a high percentage of male deer are killed, the females remaining will have more access to habitat and food. This allows them to grow stronger, and strong, healthy does often give birth to twins and triplets. This increases the population so hunters have an easier time killing animals next season. Think about it, how

is it possible that hunters otherwise would have a continuing supply of deer to kill? This management strategy (to increase the deer population) also causes more deer to enter residential areas where they come into conflict with people who are annoyed when their flowers and ornamental plants are eaten by deer. In situations like this, it is easy for hunters to step in and portray themselves as heroes for "thinning the herd." Those who do not understand the workings of state wildlife agencies side with the hunters out of the belief that "something needs to be done" and that "a quick death is better than cruel nature," consequently, the hunting culture thrives. Remember: nearly everything a state wildlife agency does regarding species that have a hunting season on them is to enhance the hunting experience - the agencies work for hunters, not wildlife.

There is a lot you can do for wildlife, and thanks for wanting to get involved. Be sure to speak up whenever you hear someone talking about hunting or wildlife. If a classmate or friend is talking about how much fun his hunting trip was, speak up and tell him that there's no excuse for killing harmless animals. Voice your displeasure and stand your ground. You'll likely be hit with a barrage of excuses that you may or may not be able to answer, but if you stick to the point that hunting is always unnecessary violence, and violence against wildlife is never a good thing, you'll always be right. If you need more help, give us a call or send us a Facebook message and we'll be happy to help.

Another thing you can do is to grab a couple of friends and offer to post property with "No Hunting" signs. They are inexpensive (one of the largest online retailers sells a roll of 100 Tyvek signs for less than \$30.00), lightweight, and easy to post with a staple gun. Raising enough money for this project shouldn't be difficult - offer to post property for free and ask if they can make a donation to help you purchase supplies. Set a date for when you can show up to post their property and be sure to be there on time. Before you show up determine how far apart the signs need to be (by law) and know the boundaries of the property you're posting. Remember - we cannot post someone's property without their permission (as much as we'd like to!). Let us know how it goes.

That's something simple someone can do to protect wildlife from hunters.

Thanks!  
Uncle Joe

## C.A.S.H. CATALOG

### A Voice in the Wilderness

Videotape approximately 20 minutes.  
\$12.00 and \$8 for members.

This video is an expose of wildlife management by **Luke Dommer**, founder of C.A.S.H. It was produced by **Focus on Animals**, CT. **Esther Mechler** of Focus has generously given C.A.S.H. the right to sell this videotape. Copies have been generously donated by **Nancy Gordon of HAVE**, an audio-visual company in Hudson, NY.



Luke Dommer

### CASH HAT

Neon Orange, one size fits all. \$7.50



### C.A.S.H. T-SHIRT,

X-LARGE,  
BRIGHT ORANGE—\$12.00



Front of shirt

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP US DO MORE:

- √ Become a member
  - √ Include WILDLIFE WATCH, INC. in your will (you may earmark bequests for C.A.S.H.). If you have general questions about leaving a bequest in your Will to Wildlife Watch, or making Wildlife Watch the beneficiary of life insurance or other assets, you can contact Frances Carlisle, Esq. at 212-213-0172. Frances Carlisle is a trusts and estates attorney with expertise in advising clients about bequests and other types of disposition to charitable organizations.
  - √ Donate shares of stock, avoid capital gains and get a tax deduction! Notify your broker or the company whose stock you hold. Ask them to transfer stock to Wildlife Watch, Inc. Federal Tax Identification Number: 13-3076705
- A copy of our latest annual report may be obtained from Wildlife Watch, Inc., or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

## PETER'S HUMOR? C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

By PETER MULLER, V.P. C.A.S.H

A hunter was walking down the street with a pig under his arm. He met one of his hunting buddies who was perplexed and asked "Where in tarnation did you get that thing? The pig shrugged and said, "I won it in a raffle! I don't really know what to do with it either. " I thought it could help me hunt truffles, but it just keeps bringing home dead birds!"

☺☺☺

Why is the hunter's brain the size of a pea in the morning?

It swells during the night.

☺☺☺

How many hunters does it take to play Hide and Seek?

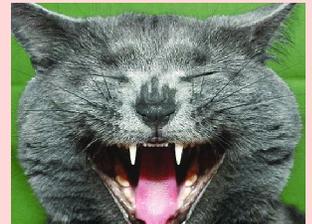
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☺☺☺

A hunter just got back to town from a whole day of walking around in the woods without finding anything to shoot at. He hadn't eaten all day. He stopped at the first pizza shop he saw and ordered a "whole pizza with everything." The waiter asked him if he wanted it cut into eight slices or twelve. He had to think for a while; finally he decided and informed the waiter "You better make it eight slices I could never finish twelve."

☺☺☺

Four hunters decided really do it right this year. Instead of driving three hours in the early morning to their favorite hunting spot, or staying in a flea-bag motel and still having a one hour drive - they would splurge a little and rent a cabin right in the middle of the woods where they wanted to be. When they arrived late on the night before, they discovered that the cabin had no heat - it was designed for use in mild weather only - however when they arrived it was 10 degrees below zero. They tried to use their coats as blankets - but nothing really kept them warm enough to sleep. Finally, Jethrow, the only one among them who had finished 7th grade, had an idea. He suggested that each of them should stand in a different corner of the room. They didn't understand why this should help but didn't want to argue with an educated man. After standing in the corners for fifteen minutes and not feeling any warmer they asked Jethrow for an explanation. "Well..." he explained "When I took geometry, Mr. Morton told us that corners are always at 90 degrees. Guess he was wrong."



Fans of Pete's Humor

www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#

## SAVE THE MUTE SWANS IN NYS

[www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7076.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7076.html) In this link you will find the DEC's revised mute swan proposal. **Please see GoosewatchNYC's response to it here:** [www.goosewatchnyc.com/#!/mute-swan-plan/cnwg](http://www.goosewatchnyc.com/#!/mute-swan-plan/cnwg) .

Please send in your comments to the DEC by 4/24 and let your elected representatives know that you **DO NOT WANT MUTE SWANS DESTROYED**. Tell them to support the **Avella/Cymbrowitz Swan Bill (S1555 and A3675)** when it comes up for a vote.



Swan Art by Sue Miller©



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