

Incorporated Village of Lloyd Harbor Suffolk County, New York



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Jean M. Thatcher
Mayor

Jill Cervini
Clerk-Treasurer

November 2016

MAYOR'S MESSAGE Deer Management

To: Village Residents
From: Mayor Jean Thatcher
Board of Trustees

I write to update all residents on the status of our Deer Management Program, and to advise you that Deer Management will be taking place during the winter of 2017. The explosion of the deer population is a matter of utmost concern both to me and to the Board of Trustees, and we continue efforts to control this situation.

The Board of Trustees took advantage of the DEC- permitted ability to run a professional Deer Management Program during September 2016. The Program was highly successful, as we did not have to contend with adverse winter weather conditions. All meat was processed and donated to the food pantries.

DEC regulations required us to cease our professional management efforts on September 30, 2016. October 1st-December 31st is bow-hunting season, according to DEC mandate. Bow-hunting takes place only on private properties.

The Village's Deer Survey, conducted during the summer of 2015, yielded 420 responses, with approximately 33% of the residents participating. Of interest are the following responses:

- **63% reported daily sightings of deer;**
- **75% reported "a lot more" deer in the area;**
- **17% reported contracting tick-borne illnesses;**
- **81 reports of tick-borne illness (largely Lyme disease) contracted by other household members;**
- **89 reports of pets with Lyme disease;**
- **95% reported deer damage to property, with 72% describing the damage as moderate to severe;**
- **24% reported deer-vehicle collisions over the past 5 years**

Given the very strong data provided from our survey, the empirical evidence as to the effectiveness of a professional Deer Management Program run during good weather, and the significant difference in yield using professional deer management versus bow-hunting, we continue our efforts with the DEC. Our goal, going forward, is to be allowed to run our professional Deer Management program simultaneously with bow-hunting season (October 1-December 31), as these activities do not take place on the same land.

Our professional Deer Management season will re-commence in January 2017, and continue through the winter. If you hear anything of concern please notify the Lloyd Harbor Police. They can tell you if Deer Management efforts are taking place or investigate, as appropriate.