

Deer Management Subcommittee Minutes

Nov 28, 2018

In attendance:

Jason Cole
Tom Cotton
Bob Douglas
Ben Urquhart
Paul Willard

Don Osmer, local hunter, in attendance

Topics Discussed:

Can we get town email addresses for the program?

Don Osmer: Sudbury, Carlisle have programs

Ben: recommended doing pellet counts, browse surveys, trail camera surveys for deer population assessment

Jason to do: get deer harvest data from other town programs

Use Nextdoor as an outreach tool to residents and to recruit potential hunters

Don Osmer:

- he knocks on doors to get to know neighbors, ask for hunting permission
- emphasized ethics, sportsmanship
- shares harvest with property owners
- conservation land is currently being hunted illegally

Ben: Harvard Sportsmen's Club does not record harvest on their property

Andover program started with 30 archers, now 80, half residents, half non-residents; hunters work together to find their own spaces to hunt

Ben: regarding poachers, we are bringing control to an uncontrolled situation (hunters find illegal stands, report poaching to Environmental Police)

Recommended Facebook page: Boston Bowhunter

For reference, another local hunter: Bill ("Bud") Duckett

Don Osmer:

- Zone 9 allowed significantly fewer doe tags than Zone 10
- some areas in Oxbow open to shotgun/muzzle loader by lottery

Jason: research, coordinate with other towns to get Zone 9 grouped with Zone 10 in

terms of bag limits, archery season dates

Ben: we could conduct Lyme survey of residents

Tom: HCT will need to vote on whether to participate in this program

Groton allows hunting on conservation land

State of MA owns Delaney, New England Power Co properties in SE Harvard

Adjourned