

CHAPTER 1074

Deer Hunting

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1074.01 PURPOSE.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide comprehensive regulations for the hunting of deer within the corporate limits of the Municipality in order to reduce the number of deer within the Municipality to deal with problems caused by an over population of deer within the Municipality. It has been found that the overly large population of deer within the Municipality has caused vehicular safety issues on public rights-of-way, damage to private and public properties with respect to damage to landscaping, trees and other vegetation, and public health concerns with respect to disease transmitted through the deer population to humans.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11.)

1074.02 SPECIAL PERMIT REQUIRED.

(a) No person shall hunt deer within the Municipality without a deer hunting authorization permit being issued by the City Manager, or his or her designee, that is issued upon the submission of a completed application form as provided by the City Manager, or his or her designee. A new permit issued pursuant to this chapter is required for each bow hunting season for deer as such seasons are scheduled by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife.

(b) The deer hunting authorization permit required by this section may be issued only after proper completion of the permit application, proof that the applicant has secured all necessary State of Ohio licenses for deer hunting, completion of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Hunter's Safety Program or other State of Ohio hunter's safety program, and proof of having passed a cross bow and/or bow and arrow proficiency test that has been authorized by the City Manager, or his or her designee.

(c) A person who hunts deer within the Municipality shall at all times when so hunting maintain some form of personal liability insurance, whether as a rider on the person's homeowner's or renter's insurance or otherwise, which covers his or her hunting activities with respect to any damages or loss to persons or property caused by such hunting activities. The minimum amount of personal liability coverage for loss shall be one hundred thousand dollars

(\$100,000). No person shall be issued a permit under this chapter unless that person provides proof of having met the insurance requirements of this subsection in a form and manner that is acceptable to the City Manager, or his or her designee.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11; Ord. 12-59. Passed 4-18-12.)

1074.03 PROPERTY OWNER PERMISSION REQUIRED.

If the person who is hunting deer is not the fee title owner of the property upon which the deer is being hunted or taken, written permission of the fee title owner(s) of the property must be obtained and must be carried by the person who is hunting at all times while on the property where deer is being hunted or taken.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11.)

1074.04 ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS.

(a) No person shall hunt or take deer by any means in the Municipality except by use of a cross bow and bolt or by a bow and arrow.

(b) All deer hunting in the Municipality shall be confined to an area of at least five acres of contiguous property in single ownership or where the fee title owners of more than one property agree to permit their properties to form at least five contiguous acres for the purpose of permitting deer hunting and such agreement is supplied in writing to the person who is hunting deer on the properties and signed by all fee title owners of the properties involved, provided further that the properties involved are contiguous, not separated by a public roadway, and no more than two residential dwellings exist on the acreage being joined for hunting purposes under this subsection.

(c) All persons who hunt deer in the Municipality shall be a minimum of eight feet above the ground during all hunting activities and shall not attempt or take a shot at a deer upon or over a public road or highway, or when that person can visually see residential structures, vehicles, or other persons in the background of his or her shot.

(d) No person shall pursue a wounded or killed deer onto another's property unless the pursuing person has written permission to hunt or pursue the deer on that other property. In the event a wounded deer travels onto property upon which that person does not have written permission to hunt or pursue the deer, the pursuing person shall not enter the property and shall immediately notify the Municipal police department of the situation.

(e) All persons who hunt deer within the Municipality shall comply with all regulations and guidelines as provided for by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11.)

1074.05 ENFORCEMENT.

Any person obtaining a permit under this chapter and any property owner giving written permission for deer hunting on the owner's property shall have been deemed to consent to the entry upon the property by Municipal police officers and/or other persons designated by the City Manager to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11.)

1074.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). A separate offense shall be deemed committed each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues.

(Ord. 11-105. Passed 10-5-11.)