

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
DEER COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2009**

The East Goshen Township Deer Committee held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday August 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Goshen Township building.

In attendance were: Jim McRee (chairman), members Jim Ryland, Linda Polishuk, Chuck Matasic, John Babiec and Matt Keating. Mark Gordon was also in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Ryland moved to approve the minutes from the July 20 meeting, as corrected. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

4. COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

Since the hunting season starts on September 19th, Matt will write something for the Township website.

5. DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Representatives were present from the following hunting clubs:

Tri-County Deer Management Association (TCDMA)
Deer Management Professionals of Southeastern PA
Main Line Whitetail Managers
Chester County Trackers

Jim McRee asked for questions and discussion regarding the 2009/2010 season.

A. Main Line Whitetail Managers representative commented that they are trying to handle a lack of suitable trees and still be in compliance with the program. They have several elderly members who are retired and have the time to hunt. However, they can't use the "sticks" that are usually used to get up on the stands. They would like to use a ladder stand and gave two options for securing the ladder. The first option is an 8 foot piece of wood secured at the top and bottom with locks. The second option is to secure the ladder to another tree. Jim McRee feels the Board of Supervisors would say no to the first option, but thinks the second option is okay. Chuck also feels it is within the guidelines. The club will paint the ladder brown & green and try this on one stand for this year. Currently the program will not allow tripods where there are no trees.

B. Tri-County covers Wentworth and requested a poster size copy of the map. They want to add 1 or 2 new stands in the zones. Jim M. verified that the

procedure is to send in the schedule on Friday for the next week. If a stand is being added in an already active zone just show it for that week. If a new zone is being added, the Township needs 24 hours notice before the new zone/stand can be added.

They requested the feeder at the Township Building be pulled. Mark said the ones in hunting zones are supposed to be pulled starting Wednesday.

Gary Clemson said last year when he was leaving late one evening, he saw flashing lights on Paoli Pike. When he came out there was a police officer at his car. Everything turned out okay, but he thought the weekly communications were supposed to prevent this type of contact.

Emails – Mark will send everyone an email that will have instructions for communicating with members of the Deer Committee and Township staff.

C. Deer Management Pros covers Bow Tree. They lost their access by the sewage treatment plant because of the construction. They need a place to park at this end of the zone. Mark G. will ask Mark Miller if the hunters can use a few spaces on the property that the township is using to store construction equipment. The two members with addresses outside the area are not going to hunt.

D. ID Cards – Mark will issue new ID cards as per the names on the applications. No ID cards are needed in the cars this year.

They can start to set up stands now.

E. Schedule – For this year they should put in the zones that have been opened. At the end of the week, report who was in the zones that week. Jim M. will send out a scheduling template. They should schedule for times the hunters are actually going to be there so there is no abuse of cancellations. If there is an area where there will be no hunting, please close that zone. Tri-County will change the location of their zones to add a zone and close it.

F. Boundaries – Mark reported that the Public Works Department is behind schedule, so they did not mark boundaries like last year. Chas is asking if the groups will do that this year and remark both the red and white lines. They can't hunt until the boundaries are marked. Tri-County found that some residents have encroached into Township open space, so he won't mark those areas. The clubs requested more guidelines for marking. Jim M. verified that the red line marks the property line and the white line is the safety line. The 50 foot buffer is from an occupied building. The goal is to let the hunter know where the safety zone is. The Township will provide the paint. Mark will send out an email with guidelines and information about materials pickup.

G. Deer Ticks – Jim M. asked the clubs to check for ticks on the deer and add a column to their report to indicate approximately how many ticks there were.

H. Signs- Mark showed the clubs a sample of the sign that will be posted at parking areas and open areas. They will be 12" x 18", green on white and will be removed during the off season.

I. Amendments to motion – John read the amendments to last month's motion to remind everyone of the outstanding items to their applications.

6. DEER VEHICLE COLLISIONS

The committee reviewed the report for the period June 1 to June 30th. The reports that are in “landscape” format are for the Game Commission and the “portrait” format are for PennDOT.

7. LYME DISEASE

- A. John contacted the Chester County Health Department to see if they can coordinate a program.
- B. Pyrethrum can be sprayed on lawns to kill ticks, but it can flow into creeks, etc. and cause environmental problems.
- C. Linda reported that she was told there is no grant money available since there is no State budget. The first round of applications were reviewed. We are in the third round. She will continue to follow up.
- D. The County dropped off some signs about ticks and Lyme Disease and Mark M. put them in the parks.

8. ANY OTHER MATTER

- A. Linda mentioned that Lower Makefield has a sharp-shooting program. Chuck commented that this type of program requires a State permit, private property is essential and it is expensive. Matt feels our current program has been successful and we should continue with it.
- B. Mark said the Township has Public Works personnel on call 24/7 if there is an incident that requires emergency action.
- C. The annual subscription to “Wildlife Society” costs \$650. It was useful to Jim M. in the first year but is very technical. The committee will consider renewing it.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chuck moved to adjourn the meeting. Matt seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Future meetings – Workshop September 21 – John Morgan from the PA Game Commission will be here.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary