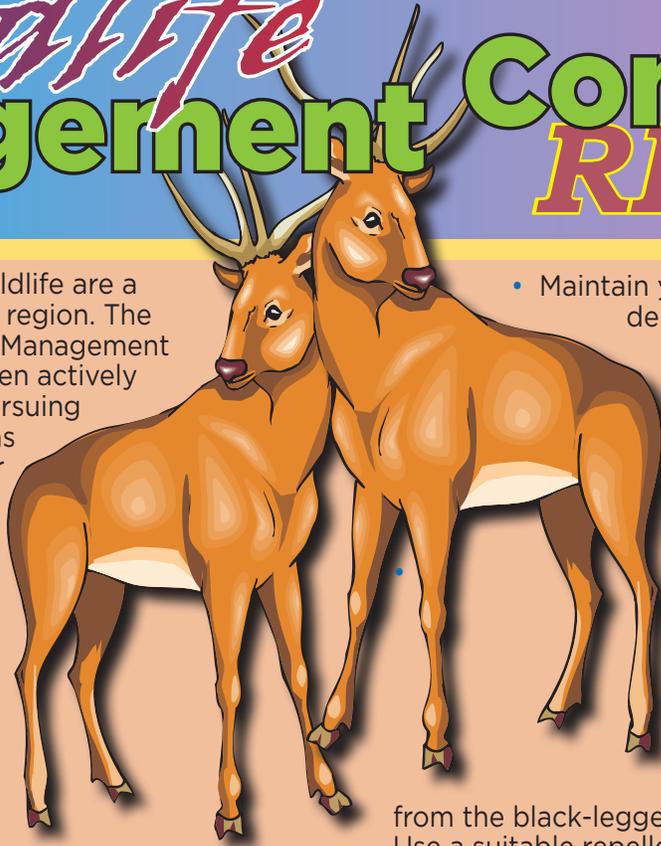


Wildlife Management Committee

REPORT

Deer and other wildlife are a fact of life in our region. The Whitehall Wildlife Management Committee (WWMC) has been actively researching methods and pursuing legal, ethical and fiscal means of controlling deer and other wildlife in our community. An acceptable and successful effort in this endeavor requires the cooperation of all Whitehall residents. By working together we can minimize the impact of deer, rabbits, groundhogs and other wildlife on our property and, more importantly, our health and well-being.



- Feeding deer and other wildlife and feral animals is prohibited by Whitehall Ordinance 71.6.5. **If you see anyone feeding wild or feral animals, please contact the Whitehall Code Enforcement Office at (412) 884-1368.** Please note that properly maintained bird feeders are acceptable.
- Spring and summer are prime seasons for planting trees, shrubs, flowers and ground cover. When selecting plants for your gardens, choose plants that deer usually avoid. Why attract deer by offering them a tempting feast? A suggested source for planting is <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance>. Limited copies are available at our library. When shopping, seek guidance from knowledgeable staff at local nurseries. Please note that groundhogs will eat anything in your garden.
- Protect your flowers, shrubs and young trees by using deer and rabbit repellent products regularly (every two or three weeks and after heavy rains). Alternate different repellents since deer and rabbits become accustomed to a single brand or mixture. Your tulips and hostas are deer and rabbit favorites. For vegetable gardens, a sturdy fence around and above your garden and planting some marigolds may help.

- Maintain your property. Keep it free of debris, especially fallen leaves and high grass. Don't provide deer with a refuge or give mice, ticks and other vermin a habitat. If someone is not taking proper care of their property, please notify the Code Enforcement Office.

While May is Lyme Disease Awareness Month, black-legged ticks are prevalent from spring through fall. The risk of human infection is greatest in late spring and summer. When working in your yard, protect yourself

from the black-legged tick which carries Lyme Disease. Use a suitable repellent on your skin and clothing. Woodland creatures such as squirrels, chipmunks and mice are the primary hosts for ticks in the pre-adult stages, which is when Lyme Disease is largely spread. A tick nymph is about the size of a poppy seed whereas an adult tick is about the size of a sesame seed. Deer, some birds, pets and people are hosts in ticks' adult stage. Ticks like moist, shady and grassy areas. It's nice to have bird feeders but keep the area around the feeders clean to avoid attracting rodents. For more information on Lyme Disease, refer to the Allegheny County Health Department or U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention websites. **Report any tick bites to your doctor immediately.**

- If you have a vehicular accident with a deer in the Borough of Whitehall, please notify the Police Department.

Members of the WWMC will have a display at Community Day on Saturday, June 3rd. Please visit us to share your experiences and concerns or to obtain additional information. The Whitehall Library is an excellent source on local wildlife and Lyme Disease. In addition, the WWMC is now included on the Borough of Whitehall website. Please remember to do what you can to prevent attracting wildlife to your property.

