

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Reason for the Program

Over the past five years, Whitehall Borough has experienced a significant increase in animal complaints related to the dense deer population. The police department has been tracking these reports and identified the following trends:

- **175%** increase in deer vs. motor vehicle accidents.
- **90%** increase in animal complaints involving deer.
- **49%** increase in dead deer removed from roadways and private yards

After careful thought and consideration, it was determined that a community-based public archery program would be the most practical, cost effective, and proven control option available to manage the dense deer population.

In 2022, our elected officials partnered with Suburban Wildlife Management Solutions to develop and implement its community-based public archery program. Suburban Wildlife is based out of Peters Township and experienced with managing similar programs in other communities within the South Hills.

Archery Program

Suburban Wildlife Management Solutions will oversee the public archery hunt, which takes place during the statewide hunting season(s) established by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. They screen and select volunteer hunters, determine areas of high deer – human conflicts, and assign hunters to designated areas throughout the Borough. The program's success requires collaboration with Borough residents to utilize proven deer management strategies in areas with the highest rates of deer-human conflicts.

Individuals Interested in Participating as an Archer

Whitehall residents interested in participating as archers are encouraged to apply. It is important to note, the number of participants permitted into the archery program is limited to the number of available hunting locations in the program.

- Interested archers are asked to download and complete the [Archer Application](#). Email the application, along with photocopies of NBEF or PGC bow hunter education card, driver's license, and any additional hunting related certifications and safety courses to Suburban Wildlife at WildlifeManagementSolutions@gmail.com. You can also drop off the completed application and documents at the Whitehall Borough Police Department.
- All applicants will be subject to an Archer Proficiency Test and Pennsylvania Criminal History Record Check.

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Property Owners Interested in Allowing Authorized Hunters to Use Their Property

Whitehall property owners interested in allowing authorized hunters to access their property for archery hunting are asked to download and complete the Property Owner Authorization. Email the application to Suburban Wildlife at WildlifeManagementSolutions@gmail.com. Please include your property address, description of property, and your contact information in the email.