



Communications Office

The City of Morgantown

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Morgantown Urban Deer Hunt Yields "Happy Hunters," "Zero Problems"

Nearly 50 deer were harvested from lands inside city limits.

MORGANTOWN - The inaugural Urban Deer Archery Hunt ended on December 31, 2011, and the city is happy to announce the results of the city's first deer harvest.

Rick Bebout of the Deer Commission was very pleased with the unofficial numbers totaling nearly 50 deer for this year's harvest, but he says the important number to share is zero.

"Zero hunt-related incidents, zero complaints, zero problems," said Bebout. "Happy hunters."

The largest portion of these deer was harvested from the White Avenue area, which yielded 12 deer.

The Core Arboretum was also a popular spot. Jon Weems, Arboretum Specialist, said hardly anyone noticed the hunters at all.

Hunters also had the choice to donate their kill to local soup kitchens to benefit the City's homeless and hungry. These generous donors gave 18 deer, supplying more than 400 pounds of ground meat to the Caritas House, the Bartlett House, and the Trinity Episcopal Church Community Kitchen.

Bebout asked citizens to supply input and ideas for next year's hunt and got a lot of positive ideas.

"They say, 'This is positive, thanks for getting the ball rolling, what can I do for you this year?'" he reported. "So many ideas for next year. We have some people who have private property. We think we'll go evaluate the property and see if we can add it."

Bebout is accepting suggestions for new hunting grounds. If you have private property or belong to the association of a neighborhood with a growing deer problem, he says he will be willing to evaluate the property for inclusion in next year's Urban Deer Archery Hunt.

Bebout will be in attendance at the January 31, 2012 City Council Committee of the Whole meeting to present the results of the 2011 Urban Deer Archery Hunt.

If you have a suggestion for a new hunting ground for next year or would like more information about the results of the Urban Deer Archery Hunt, contact Rick Bebout by emailing him at rbebout2@hotmail.com.

If you have other questions, please contact City Manager Terrence R Moore, ICMA-CM, in his office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The number there is (304) 284-7405.

