

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
FROM: Richard Klimes, Director of Parks and Recreation 
DATE: August 7, 2013
RE: Authorize City Deer Hunt

INTRODUCTION:

Please accept this memo and the attached information as a request for the City Council to authorize the 2013-14 City Deer Hunt. Prior to each deer hunting season and according to City Code Title 7 Police Regulations, Chapter 24 Weapons, Section 7-24-5 Bow Hunting Deer, Item A "The hunt shall be authorized by action of the Muscatine City Council prior to October 1st of each year, during the time when such hunting is allowed by the law and regulations of the State of Iowa."

BACKGROUND:

Since the 2006-07 Deer Hunting Season, the City of Muscatine has participated in a city wide deer hunt program with the guidance of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Attached you will find the 2012-13 Deer Hunt Report. The report will show that we have experienced minimal issues while successfully managing our deer population.

If approved, this years hunt will again be for bow hunting on approved private property with two (2) acres or more. Property owners may combine parcels to reach the two (2) acre minimum.

The hunt will run from Saturday, September 14, 2013 through Sunday, January 19, 2014.

The required proficiency test will be for the hunter to successfully shoot 3 of 5 arrows in a 5 inch circle from a 20 yard distance. Only two chances will be allowed in one day.

RECOMMENDATION:

At this time, the City Staff would recommend that the Muscatine City Council approve the 2013-14 City Deer Hunt as outlined in the City Code Title 7 Police Regulations, Chapter 24 Weapons.

BACKUP INFORMATION:

1. City Code Title 7 Police Regulations, Chapter 24 Weapons
2. 2012-13 City Deer Hunt Report

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. Please contact me if you have any comments, questions, or concerns.

C: Les Dennis, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Mark Even, Park Leadworker

Memorandum
August 1, 2013

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
FROM: Richard Klimes, Director of Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: 2012-13 City Deer Hunt Report

Please accept this memo and the attached information as a summary report for the 2012-13 City of Muscatine Deer Hunt Program.

As you are aware, since the 2006-07 deer hunting season, the City of Muscatine has participated in a Deer Management Zone Program guided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The total deer harvest results are listed below with specific results attached.

Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	7 Years
Total	35	72	55	43	27	47	30	309

In February 2011 an aerial deer count was conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department staff and IDNR officials. The results of the count showed that from 2010 to 2011 our deer population increased by 6. IDNR officials have documented that deer population normally increases by one third. Our deer population increased by 6 instead of the norm of 36. There is a plus or minus 10% factor depending on flyover conditions and ground cover. There was not a flyover conducted in 2012.

The 2012-13 City Deer Hunt Program details are as follows:

- The preseason hunt meeting took place on August 22, 2012, with 22 hunters in attendance.
- The hunting proficiency test dates were Saturday, August 27, 29, and September 8. Special times were scheduled as groups could be coordinated with available staff times. The test consisted of successfully shooting 3 of 5 arrows in a five inch circle from a 20 yard distance. Only two chances were allowed in one day. There were 45 hunters that passed the test.
- The City of Muscatine Deer Management Zone Hunt was Saturday, September 15, 2012, to Sunday, January 20, 2013. The City Zone Hunt is greater in length than the normal state wide hunting season.
- A total of 200 deer tags were available to hunters wishing to participate. The tags were available at the County Recorder's office.
- A total of 12 hunters took the 30 deer killed in this season's hunt (21 doe, 5 buck, 4 button back).

In summary, the 2012-13 City of Muscatine Deer Management Zone Hunt was successful in that it allowed for the elimination of the deer population growth standard. According to the IDNR, we are accomplishing our goal and we are in a maintenance mode instead of an eradication mode.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

C: Les Dennis, Park Maintenance Supervisor

Attach: 2012-13 Deer Hunt Results
Hunt News Release
City Code
2011 IDNR Deer Count Results

Title 7 – Police Regulations

Chapter 24 – Weapons

SECTIONS:

7-24-1 Discharging Firearms

7-24-2 Missiles

7-24-3 Carrying of Weapons

7-24-4 Peace Officers – Exception

7-24-5 Bow Hunting Deer – Exception

7-24-1 Discharging Firearms. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm, B.B. gun, pellet gun, bow and arrow, sling shot, or any other device which discharges a projectile, within the Corporate Limits of the City of Muscatine, except on a recognized target range.

7-24-2 Missiles. It shall be unlawful for any person to throw any missile upon any street, alley, or public place, or to shoot any bow and arrow, B.B. gun, pellet gun, sling shot, or any other device which discharges a projectile so that said projectile crosses a public street, alley, public place, or real property boundary.

7-24-3 Carrying of Weapons. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry or display any weapon, loaded or unloaded, in a threatening manner, real or implied, on any street, alley, public place, or private property.

7-24-4 Peace Officers – Exception. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prevent peace officers from using their weapons in the performance of their duties.

7-24-5 Bow Hunting Deer – Exception. It shall not be deemed a violation of this chapter to use a bow and arrow to hunt deer on parcels of two (2) acres or more with the following conditions:

- A. The person is the owner of the property or has permission from the owner to allow for bow hunting.
- B. The person bow hunting must successfully complete a proficiency test as approved by action of the Muscatine City Council.
- C. The person has a license or permit required by the State of Iowa to hunt deer with a bow.
- D. The person has a permit issued by the Muscatine City Clerk.
- E. The hunt shall be authorized by action of the Muscatine City Council prior to October 1 of each year, during the time when such hunting is allowed by the law and regulations of the State of Iowa.
- F. Hunting shall not occur within one hundred fifty (150) feet of any residence, church, or occupied structure.
- G. The hunt shall be limited to the sex of the deer allowed by the laws or regulations of the State of Iowa and as allowed by action of the Muscatine City Council.
- H. The person hunting must demonstrate compliance with these requirements to any law enforcement officer upon request.
- I. Persons wishing to participate in this program are required to attend an informational meeting held by the City of Muscatine in advance of the designated season.
- J. With the permission of City Council, designated public property may be used during the designated hunting season.

- K. Property owners with adjoining lot lines will be permitted to combine properties to reach the minimum two (2) acres required for hunting and there will be no zoning restriction on this acreage.

Muscatine Aerial Deer Counts

Zone	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
A	30	*	*	10	33	*	37	13	'
B	29	*	*	87	115	*	31	75	'
C	1	*	*	28	24	*	40	26	'
Total	60	0	0	125	172	0	108	114	0

* Did not fly