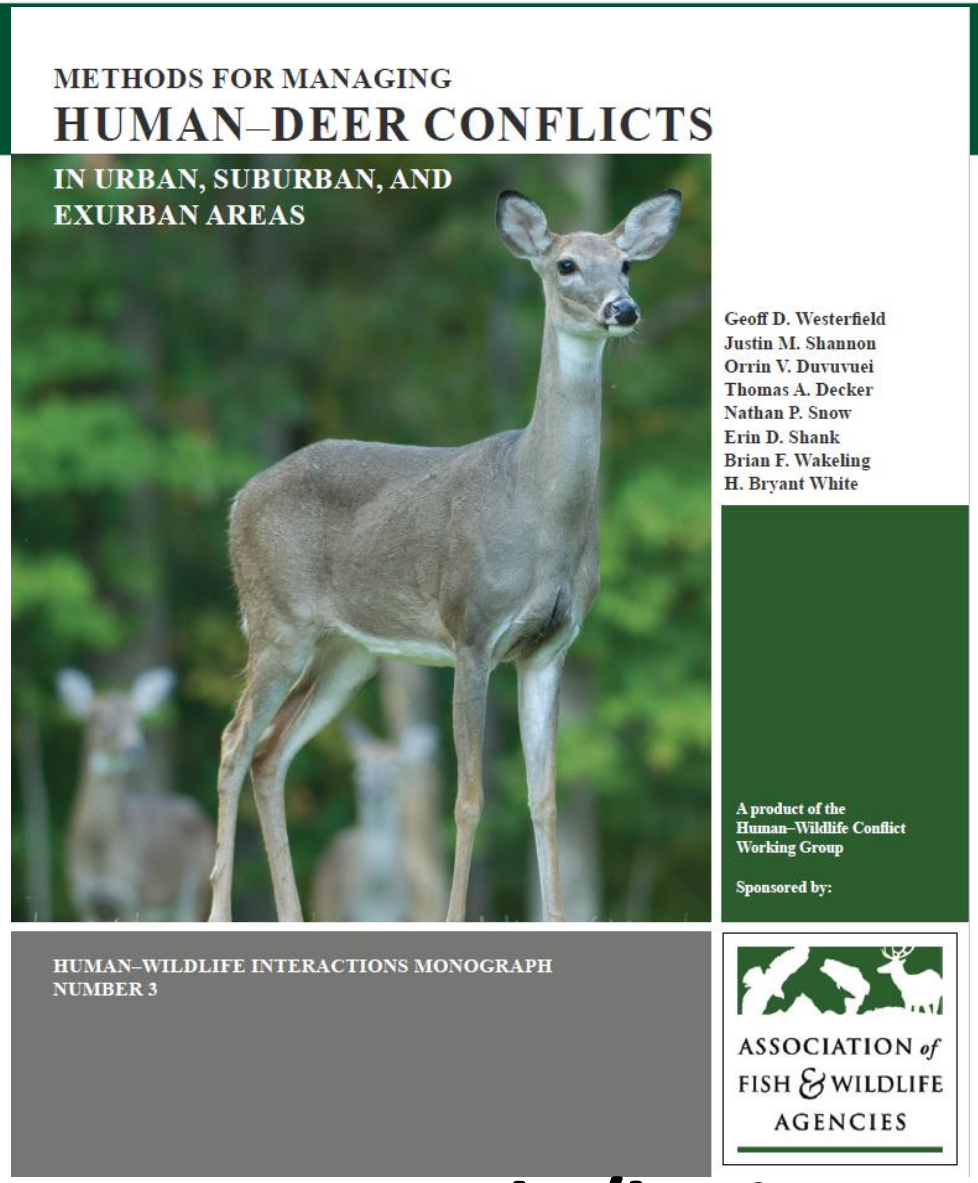
Understanding Urban Deer Mgmt

Geoff Westerfield

Assistant Wildlife Management Supervisor

Must Read



https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/hwi_monographs/3/

Questions City Leaders Need to Ask

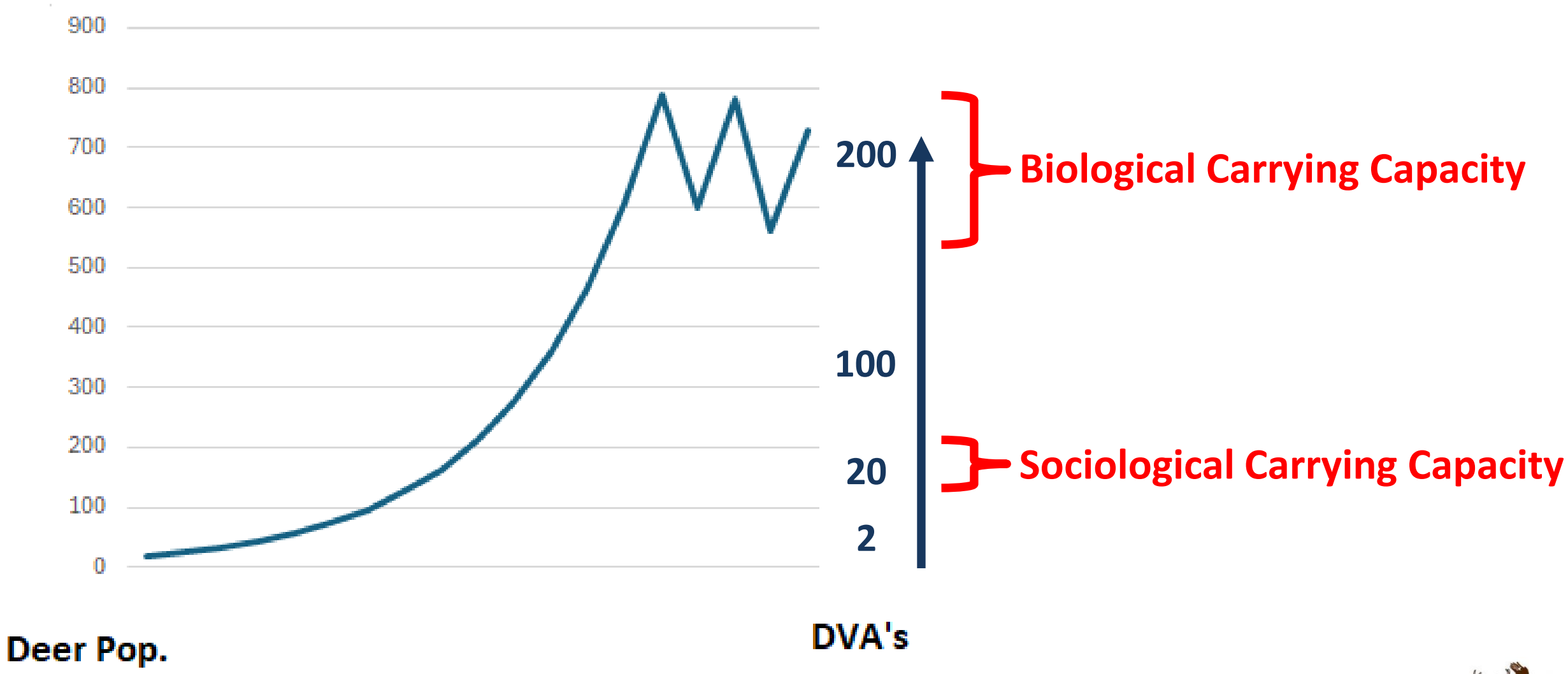
1) Have we provided the residents with all available options to address the issue themselves?

2) What barriers can we remove to allow residents to deal with deer issues on their properties?

3) Do we feel the safety issues deer are causing in our city are above what we feel is an acceptable level?

4) Are we being good stewards of our city-owned/managed properties? (ex. too many deer, causing issues on neighboring properties, etc.)

How much is too much?

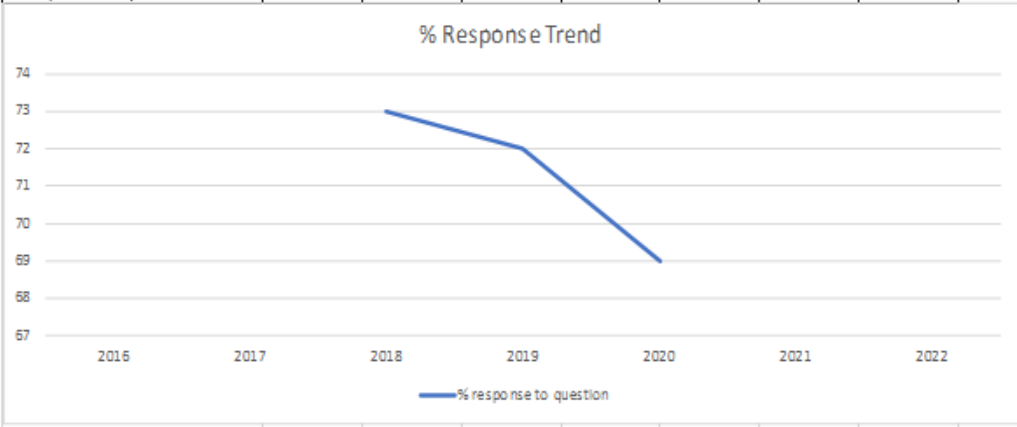


Let Data Guide Decision Making

Survey Question Asked –

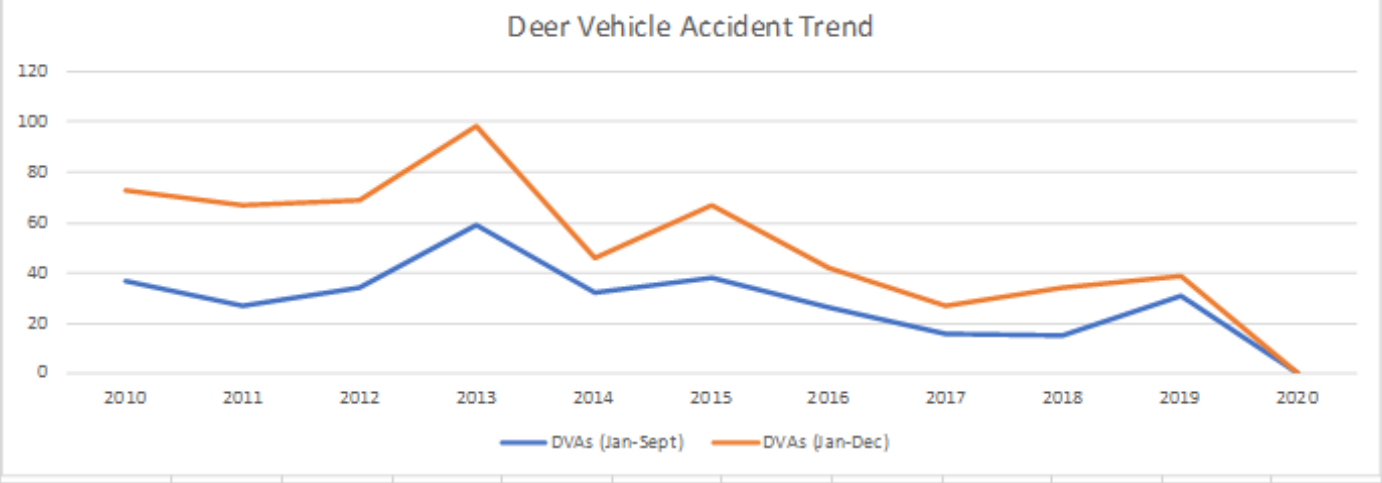
The deer population in Beachwood needs to decrease.

Survey Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
% response to question	73		73	72	69		



Annual Survey Question Goal %: 35

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
DVAs (Jan-Sept)	37	27	34	59	32	38	26	16	15	31	9*
DVAs (Jan-Dec)	73	67	69	98	46	67	42	27	34	39	26*



Annual Deer Vehicle Accident Goal in Management Plan: 30

Choosing the Right Path

Public Safety Cultural Carrying Capacity Decision Making Model

ASSESSMENTS

Collect data on the number of deer-vehicle accidents	Collect data on the number of deer picked up by the service dept
This year's goal #	This year's goal #
This year's tally #	This year's tally #

Is either assessment number above the goal number?

YES **NO**

Public Attitude Cultural Carrying Capacity Decision Making Model

ASSESSEMENT

Complete a survey to assess the percentage of residents that respond that they would like to see a decrease in the number of deer

This year's goal %

This year's assessed %

Is the assessed number above the goal number?

YES **NO**

Public Attitude	Public Safety: Yes	Public Safety: No
Yes	Population Reduction	Population Reduction
No	Population Reduction	Population Maintenance

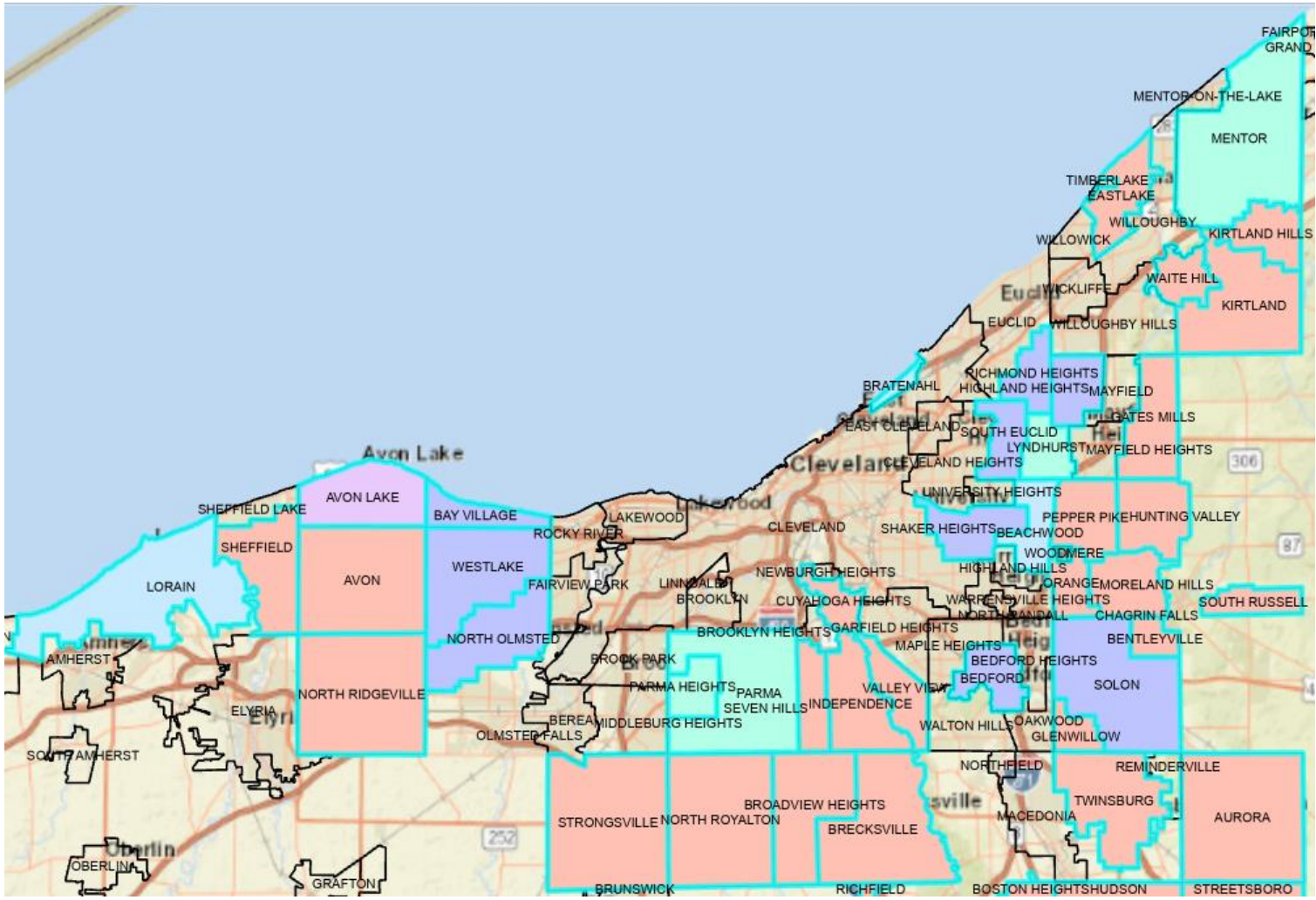
Management Options

1. Hunting

2. Targeted Deer Removal

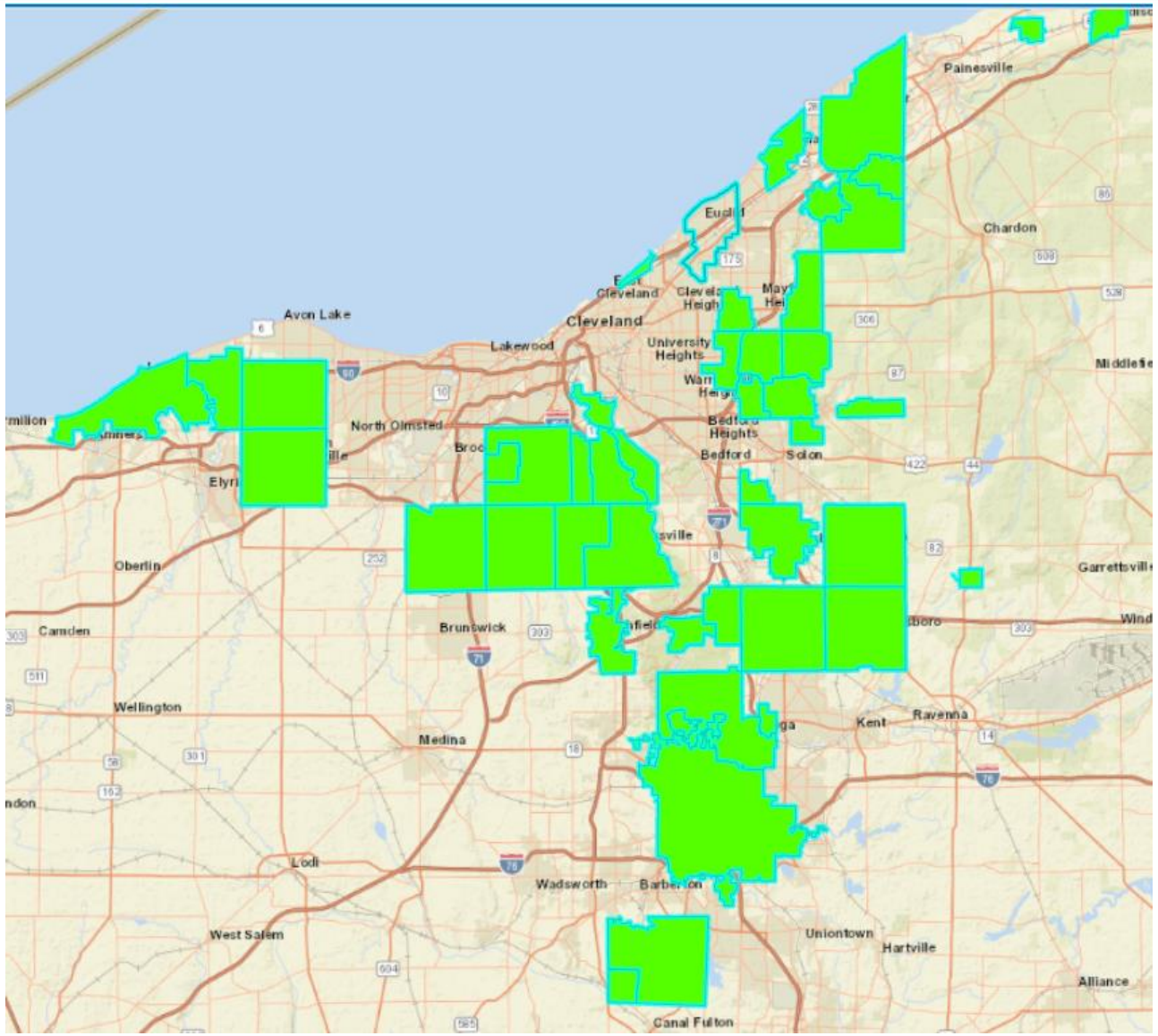
3. **Combined Program**

Fertility

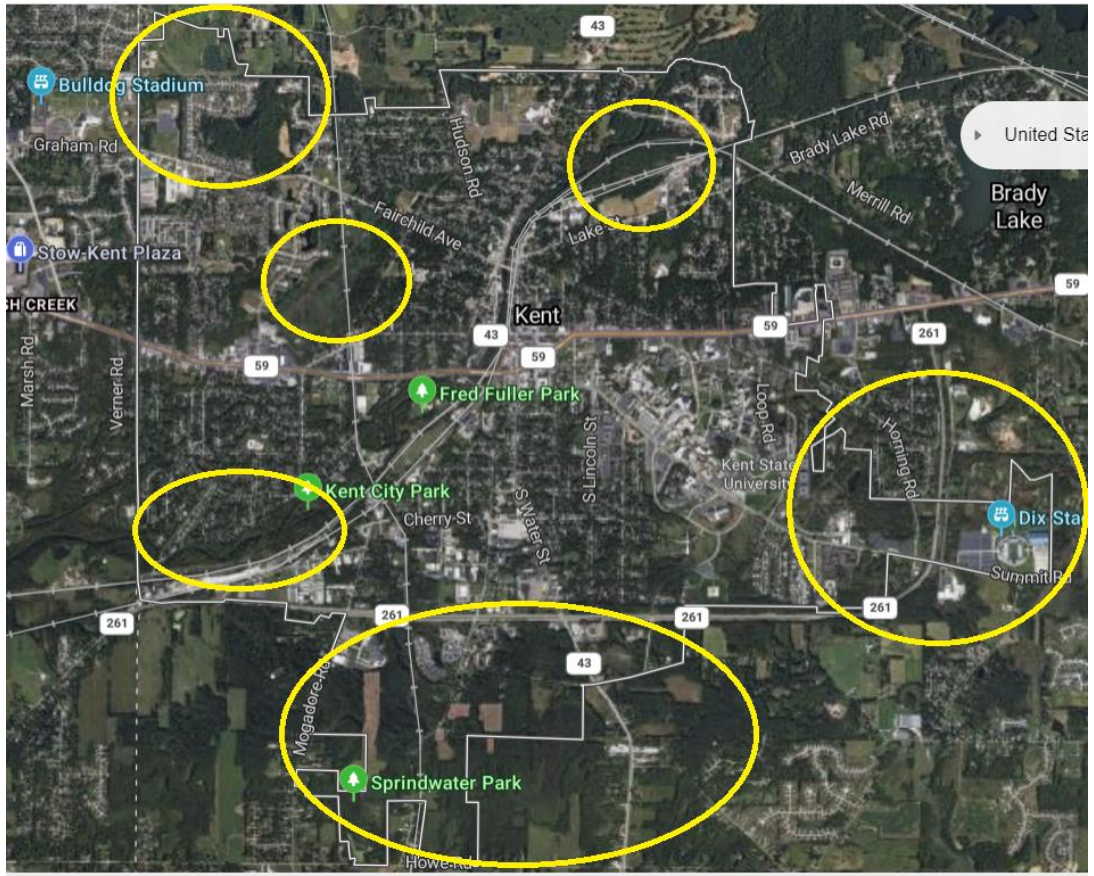


Lead the Horse

Hunting


Painesville
Chardon
Avon Lake
Cleveland
Lakewood
University Heights
North Olmsted
Bedford Heights
Bedford
Solon
Elyria
Oberlin
Garrettsville
Camden
Brunswick
Wellington
Medina
Kent
Ravenna
Lodi
Wadsworth
West Salem
Uniontown
Hartville
Alliance
Canal Fulton

Hunting



3 components to successful implementation

1 – Ordinance Modification

Suggested City Hunting/Trapping Ordinance Language

XXX.XX HUNTING AND TRAPPING.

(A) Hunting of white-tailed deer, or any other wild animals, may be permitted only after receiving a Municipal Wildlife Control Permit issued by the Chief of Police, or their designee, and shall not be in conflict with state law pertaining to hunting as set forth in Chapters 1531. and 1533. of the Ohio Revised Code or rules enacted in accordance with those chapters.

(B) The Chief of Police shall establish the criteria for issuance of Municipal Wildlife Control Permits and the rules and regulations for use. Municipal Wildlife Control Permits and the rules and regulations for their use shall be approved by the Administrator following review by Council and shall not be in conflict with state law pertaining to hunting as set forth in Chapters 1531. and 1533. of the Ohio Revised Code or rules enacted in accordance with those chapters.

(C) Municipal Wildlife Control Permits are not required on city owned or managed land. The Chief of Police may establish appropriate rules and regulations for hunting or trapping on city owned or managed land. These rules and regulations shall be approved by the Administrator following review by Council.

(D) Trapping of wild animals may be permitted only:

(1) When done in accordance with the state laws and regulations for nuisance wild animals set forth by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife, or

(2) During the statewide trapping season when done in accordance with the state laws and regulations as set forth by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife only after receiving a Municipal Wildlife Control Permit.

(E) Whoever violates this section is guilty of XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

2 – Municipal Application

City of XXXXXXX

Municipal Wildlife Control Permit Application

Section 1: Applicant Information

( )

Name of Permitee — Phone Number

Address — City — Zip

Section 2: Location Information

Parcel #'s of Properties to be included on the Municipal Wildlife Control Permit

	Auditor's Parcel Identification Number(s)	Signature of landowner (by signing you are providing written permission for activities to occur)	# Acres
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

If more than 5 parcel #'s check here ☐ and list the parcel number along with a signature for each on the back of this application

Section 3: Type of Permit

☐ **Hunting**

Is this application being made in conjunction with a Division of Wildlife Deer Damage Control Permit? (check one)

☐ **Yes** (If yes, application is due 15 days after issuance of the Deer Damage Control Permit)

☐ **No** (If no, application deadline is August 15th)

☐ **Trapping of Furbearers** (Application deadline is October 1st) *No Municipal Wildlife Control Permit is required if trapping under the state nuisance laws*

Wildlife species you are applying to control:_____

Section 4: Hunter/Trapper Information (maximum of 5)

	Legal Name of Proposed Hunter/Trapper	Drivers Lic. # (if they have one)	Date of Birth
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

All hunters/trappers may be subject to a background check

I hereby acknowledge that any false information in this application of a Municipal Wildlife Control Permit in punishable under city ordinance XXX.XXX and reason for immediate denial of this application.

Signature of Applicant — **Date**

Checklist of items to include with this application

- ☐ A map is attached clearly showing which properties are being applied for that are identified in Section 2 of this application
- ☐ If "Yes" is checked under hunting in Section 3 of this application, then a copy of the issued Deer Damage Control Permit must be attached
- ☐ If for hunting, proof of passing a hunter education course or equivalent type of safety training is attached for each person named in Section 4
- ☐ A check for the application fee of $XX payable to the City of XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Mail completed application and all necessary documents noted above to:

City of XXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXX, OH XXXXX

3 – Municipal Permit

City of XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Municipal Wildlife Control Permit

_____
City Permit Number

The following permit is issued to:

_____ (____)_____
(Name of Permittee) Phone Number

_____ _____ _____
(Mailing Address) (City) (Zip Code)

This permit is valid for the following activity: ☐ hunting ☐ trapping of _____.
(species)

This permit may be utilized on the following properties:

Auditor's Parcel Identification Number(s)
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

The below listed shooters may shoot using this Municipal Wildlife Control Permit:

Hunter/Trapper's Legal Name	I have read and understood the rules and conditions for the use of this permit listed on the back of this permit and understand that they must be followed.
1.	Signature
2.	Signature
3.	Signature
4.	Signature
5.	Signature

A hunter/trapper is not considered authorized until they have signed the above section and were listed on the application.

This permit shall be in effect from _____ ____, 20____ to _____ ____, 20____.

Special Conditions: _____

_____

_____.

I certify that I understand the provisions of this permit as regulated under city ordinance XXX.XX. I also understand that I must adhere to any state rules or laws pertaining to hunting/trapping as set forth in Chapters 1531. and 1533. of the Ohio Revised Code or rules enacted in accordance with those chapters and am responsible for the actions of those listed on this permit.

_____ _____
(Signature of Permittee) (Date)

Approved by: _____ _____
(Signature of Chief of Police, or their designee) (Date)

Permit Conditions

Permittee Obligations

1. The permitee will be responsible for providing a copy of this permit to anyone operating under this permit. Anyone operating under this permit must possess a copy of this permit as well as any applicable state issued permits while operating under this permit. If requested by anyone, the person operating under this permit must produce this permit upon request.
2. The permittee must submit a log of animals removed under authority of this permit within two weeks of expiration of this permit.
3. The permittee must ensure that all equipment used while operating under this permit must be removed from the area covered under this permit no later than two weeks after the expiration of this permit, including but not limited to tree stands, ladders, bait, and traps.

Hunter/Trapper Obligations

4. Anyone operating under this permit must notify the Police Department prior to going out each day at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.
5. Anyone operating under this permit must have all applicable State of Ohio licenses, permits, and/or tags for the species being managed and must adhere to any Division of Wildlife rules or regulations.
6. Anyone hunting under this permit may only use archery equipment legal as described in ORC 1501:31-15-11 unless otherwise stated in the special conditions section of this permit.
7. Anyone operating under this permit may only operate in the pre-approved areas designated by the Chief of Police or their designee.
8. Unless otherwise noted in the special condition section of this permit, anyone hunting under this permit must shoot from an elevated position of at least 8 feet off the ground.
9. Anyone operating under this permit shall immediately remove carcass and entrails from the property covered under this permit unless the landowner agrees to burial on the property in which case all entrails will be buried or covered so as not to be seen. Animals may not be field dressed in view of the general public.
10. Anyone operating under this permit shall immediately notify the Police Department at (XXX) XXX-XXXX if the animal being controlled under this permit leaves the property covered under this permit.
11. Anyone operating under this permit shall immediately notify the Police Department at (XXX) XXX-XXXX if the animal being controlled under this permit travels onto a public right of way or public property and requires further measures for harvesting. The Police Department will determine if assistance by the police department is required to retrieve the animal.

Chief of Police or Their Designee Authorities

12. The Chief of Police or their designee may deem a property or any portion thereof unsuitable at any time if he/she determines it is in the best interest of the public.
13. A city representative or police designee has the right to enter any property listed on this permit.
14. Pursuant to city ordinance XXX.XX, The Chief of Police or their designee may revoke or suspend this permit at any time if the permittee and/or any person operating under this permit violates any of the listed conditions of this permit or for any other reason deemed appropriate by the Chief of Police.

Agreement and Indemnity Clause

15. By accepting this permit, the permittee and all hunters/trappers that have signed this permit accept full responsibility for conducting all activities in a safe, legal and responsible manner and to indemnify and hold harmless the City of XXXXXXXXX, it's employees, officers, and agents from all liability associated with personal injury and/or property damage, loss and expense, including, but not limited to, damages, legal expenses and cost of defense in any matter arising from the permittee's shooting activities.

Perceived vs Reality Research

Research Purpose

To be able to provide municipal leaders with data so that they can make informed decisions about allowing archery hunting within their municipal limits.

First time an assessment had been done in Ohio

Perceived issues of a hunting program

“We cannot afford to oversee a hunting program”

“We will be sued if someone got hurt as part of a hunting program”

“We can’t just let anyone hunt in our municipality”

“Deer will be running around with an arrow sticking out of them”

“Non-target species are going to get shot”

SurveyMonkey®

Urban Deer Hunting Survey

* 1. Please enter your Unique Identification Number provided to you in the email with the survey link.

2. How many years have you had an archery program in your city?

- ◯ Never had a program
- ◯ No longer have a program
- ◯ # of years

3. What effect has the deer hunting program had on your community overall? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Decrease in deer vehicle accidents
- ☐ Decrease in citizen complaints
- ☐ Decrease in landscape damage
- ☐ Decrease in aggressive issues towards people or pets
- ☐ No effect

Other (please specify)

4. In a dollar amount, approximately what does it cost annually in personnel expenses for the city to allow deer bow hunting?

5. In a dollar amount, approximately what does it cost annually in non-personnel expenses for the city to allow deer bow hunting?

6. Since the beginning of your city allowing bow hunting, please mark the total number of incidents for each category below that your city has experienced.

	Never	1 time	2 times	3 times	4 times	5 or more times
Told a hunter they are no longer allowed to hunt in your city	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Issued a citation to a hunter for not following the rules	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Had a citizen shot with an arrow	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

Communities That Participated in Survey

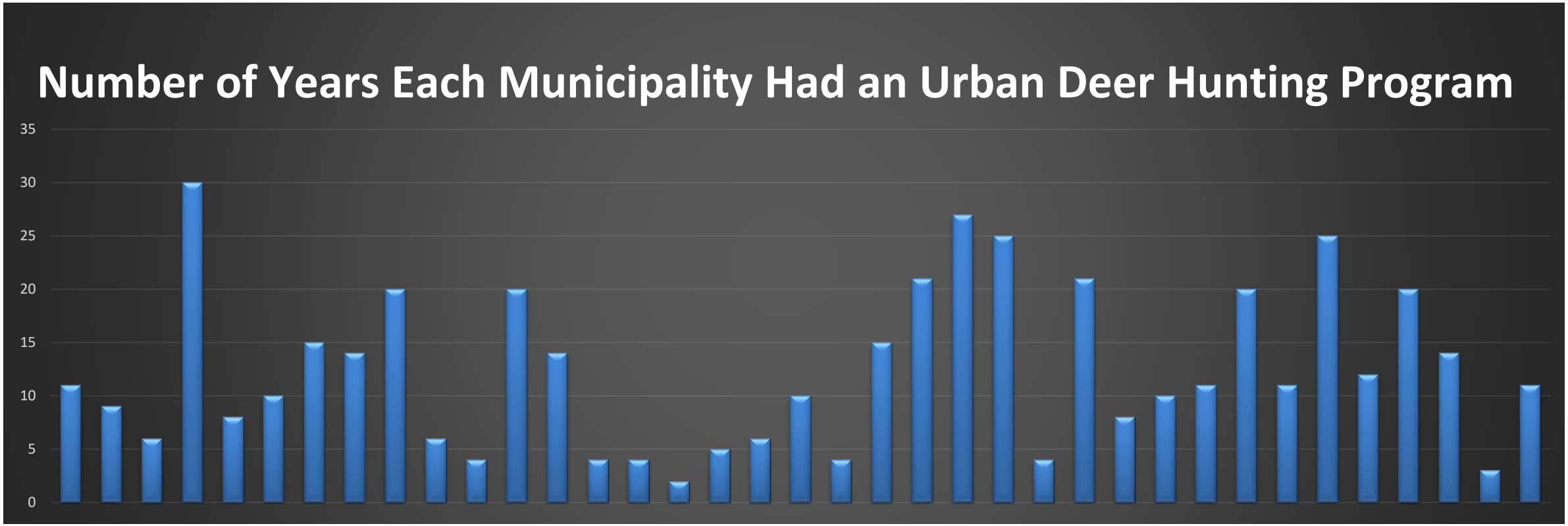
- Athens
- Beloit
- Boston Heights
- Brecksville
- Chagrin Falls
- Chillicothe
- Columbus
- Conneaut
- Cuyahoga Heights
- Gahanna
- Gates Mills
- Glenwillow
- Granville
- Green
- Groveport
- Heath
- Hubbard
- Hudson

- Hunting Valley
- Independence
- Indian Hill
- Kirtland
- Kirtland Hills
- Lorain
- Lowellville
- Lyndhurst
- Mantua
- Mariemont
- Marietta
- Mentor
- Moreland Hills
- New Albany
- Newark
- North Ridgeville
- North Royalton
- Olmsted Falls

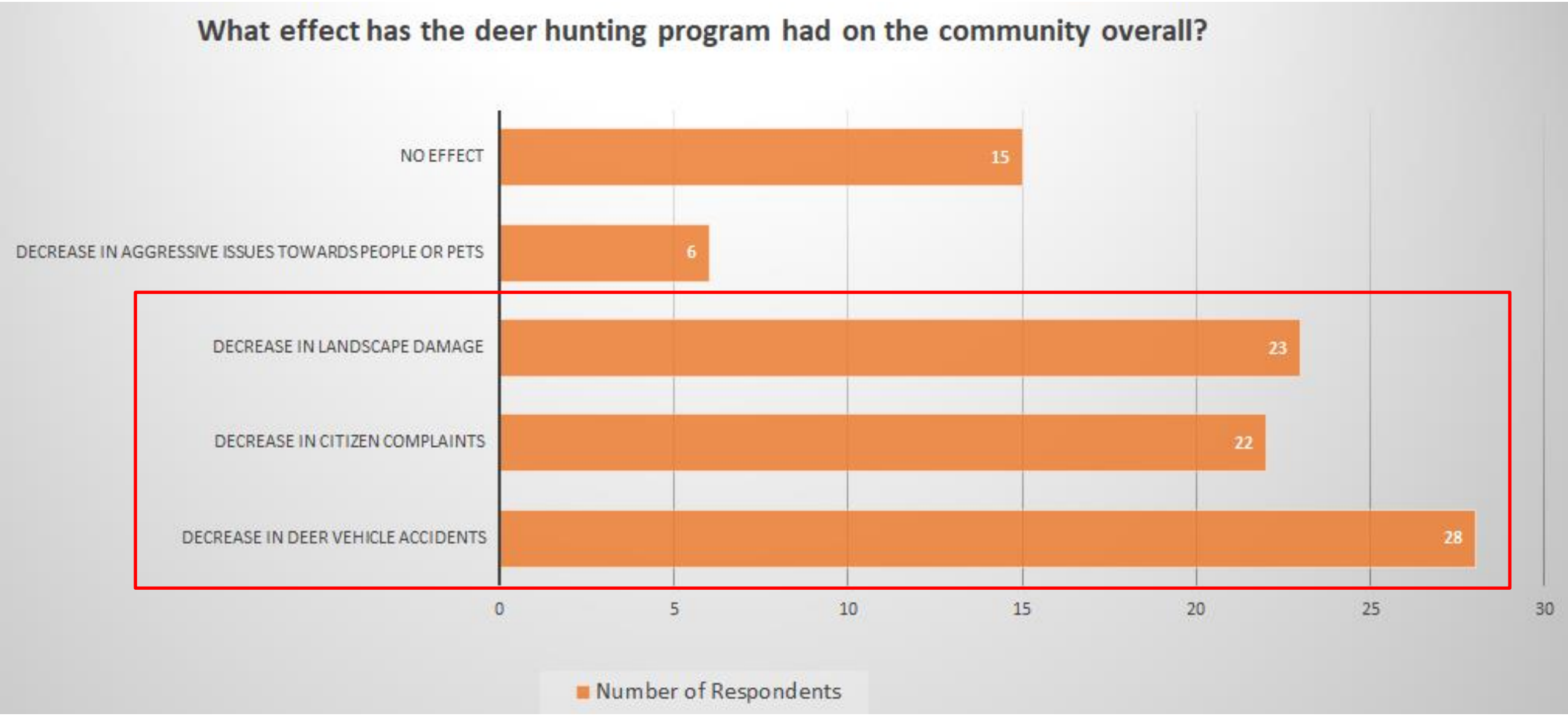
- Orange
- Oregon
- Ottawa Hills
- Oxford
- Parma Heights
- Pepper Pike
- Perry
- Sebring
- Seven Hills
- Silver Lake
- South Russell
- Streetsboro
- Strongsville
- Twinsburg
- Valley View
- Waite Hill
- Wyoming

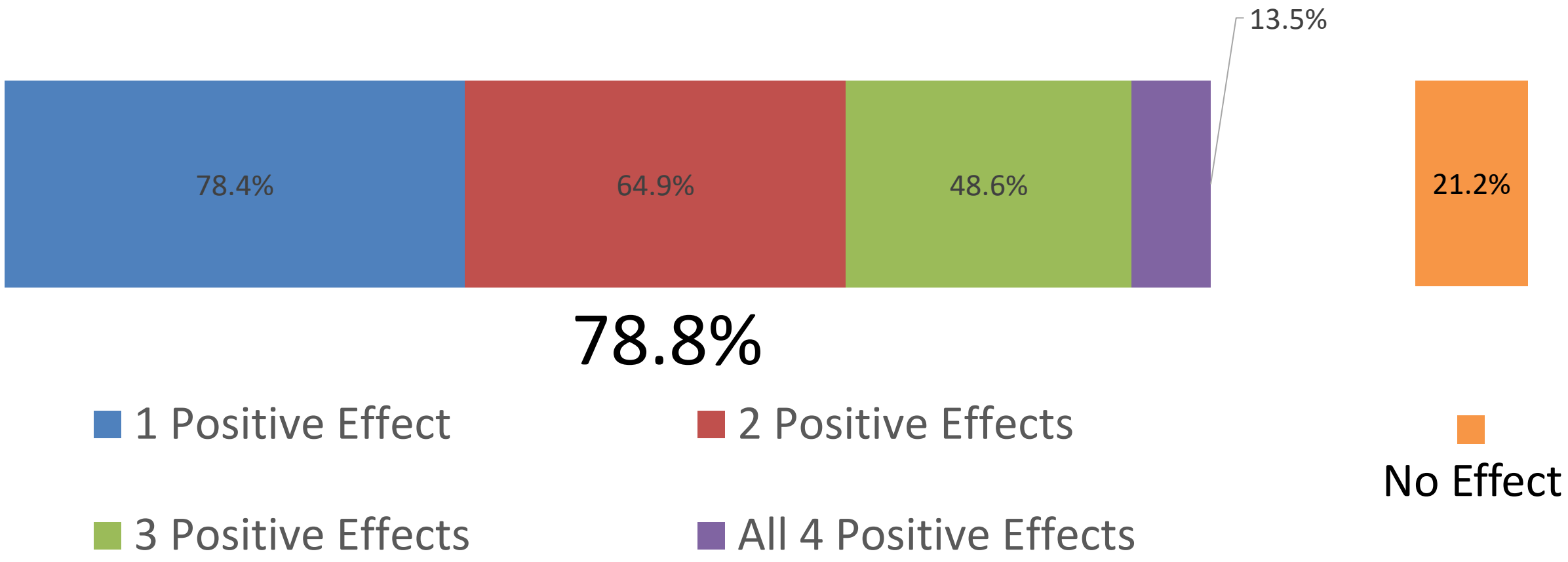
Question							Pecentage of Respondents:	Number of Respondents:
How many years have you had an archery program in your city?								54
Never had a program							27.78%	15
No longer have a program							3.70%	2
# of years							68.52%	37
What effect has the deer hunting program had on your community overall?								45
Decrease in deer vehicle accidents							62.22%	28
Decrease in citizen complaints							48.89%	22
Decrease in landscape damage							51.11%	23
Decrease in aggressive issues towards people or pets							13.33%	6
No effect							33.33%	15
In a dollar amount, approximately what does it cost annually in personnel expenses for the city to allow deer bow							88.89%	48
In a dollar amount, approximately what does it cost annually in non-personnel expenses for the city to allow deer bow hunting?							85.19%	46
Since the beginning of your city allowing bow hunting, please mark the total number of incidents for each category below that your city has experienced.							81.48%	44
	Never	1 time	2 times	3 times	4 times	5 or more times		
Told a hunter they are no longer allowed to hunt in your city	22 (51.16%)	5 (11.63%)	6 (13.95%)	3 (6.98%)	4 (9.30%)	3 (6.98%)	79.63%	43
Issued a citation to a hunter for not following the rules	31 (72.09%)	4 (9.30%)	3 (6.98%)	1 (2.33%)	1 (2.33%)	3 (6.98%)	79.63%	43
Had a citizen shot with an arrow	44 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	81.48%	44
Had a dog shot with an arrow	43 (97.73%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.27%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	81.48%	44
Had a cat shot with an arrow	42 (95.45%)	2 (4.55%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	81.48%	44
Had a house shot with an arrow	40 (90.91%)	3 (6.82%)	1 (2.27%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	81.48%	44
Had a vehicle shot with an arrow	44 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	81.48%	44

- Surveys sent – 75
- Response Rate (n=54) – 72%



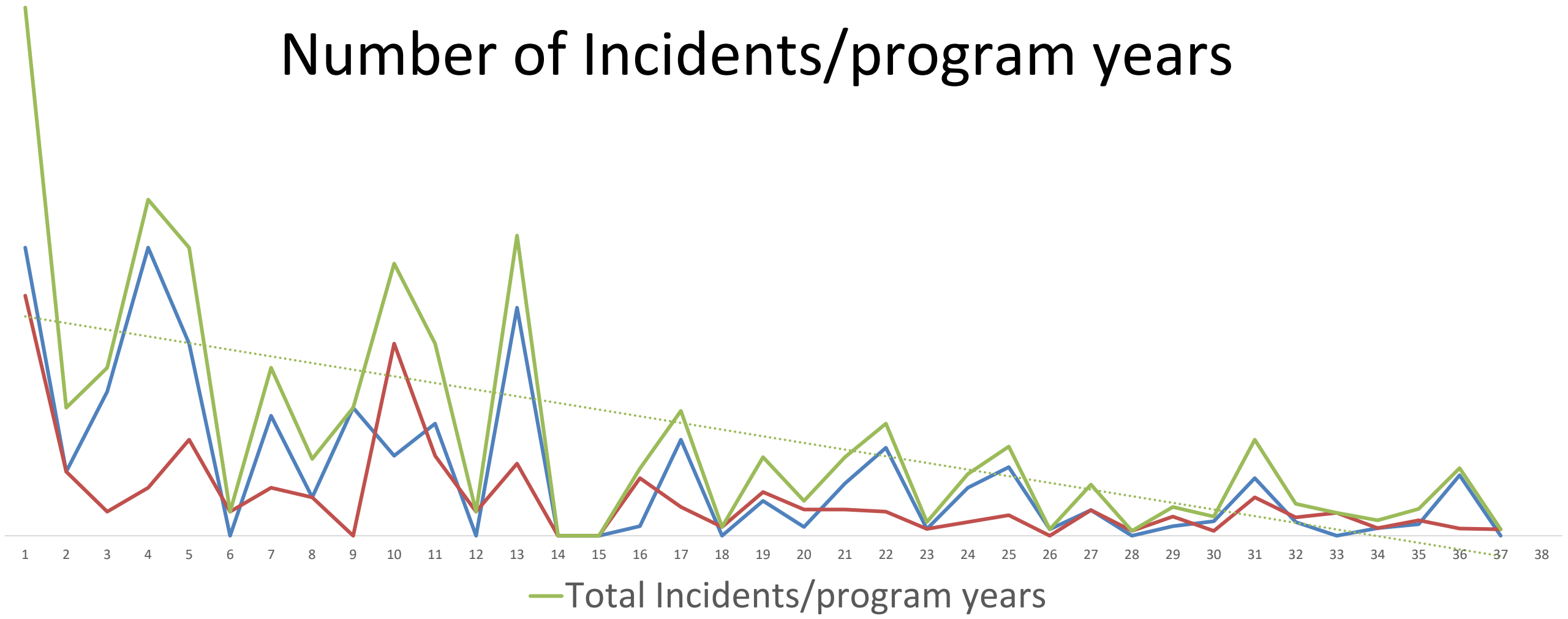
- **460 program years**
- Range – 2 to 30 years
- Average – 12.43 years


What effect has the deer hunting program had on the community overall?
NO EFFECT
15
DECREASE IN AGGRESSIVE ISSUES TOWARDS PEOPLE OR PETS
6
DECREASE IN LANDSCAPE DAMAGE
23
DECREASE IN CITIZEN COMPLAINTS
22
DECREASE IN DEER VEHICLE ACCIDENTS
28
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
Number of Respondents

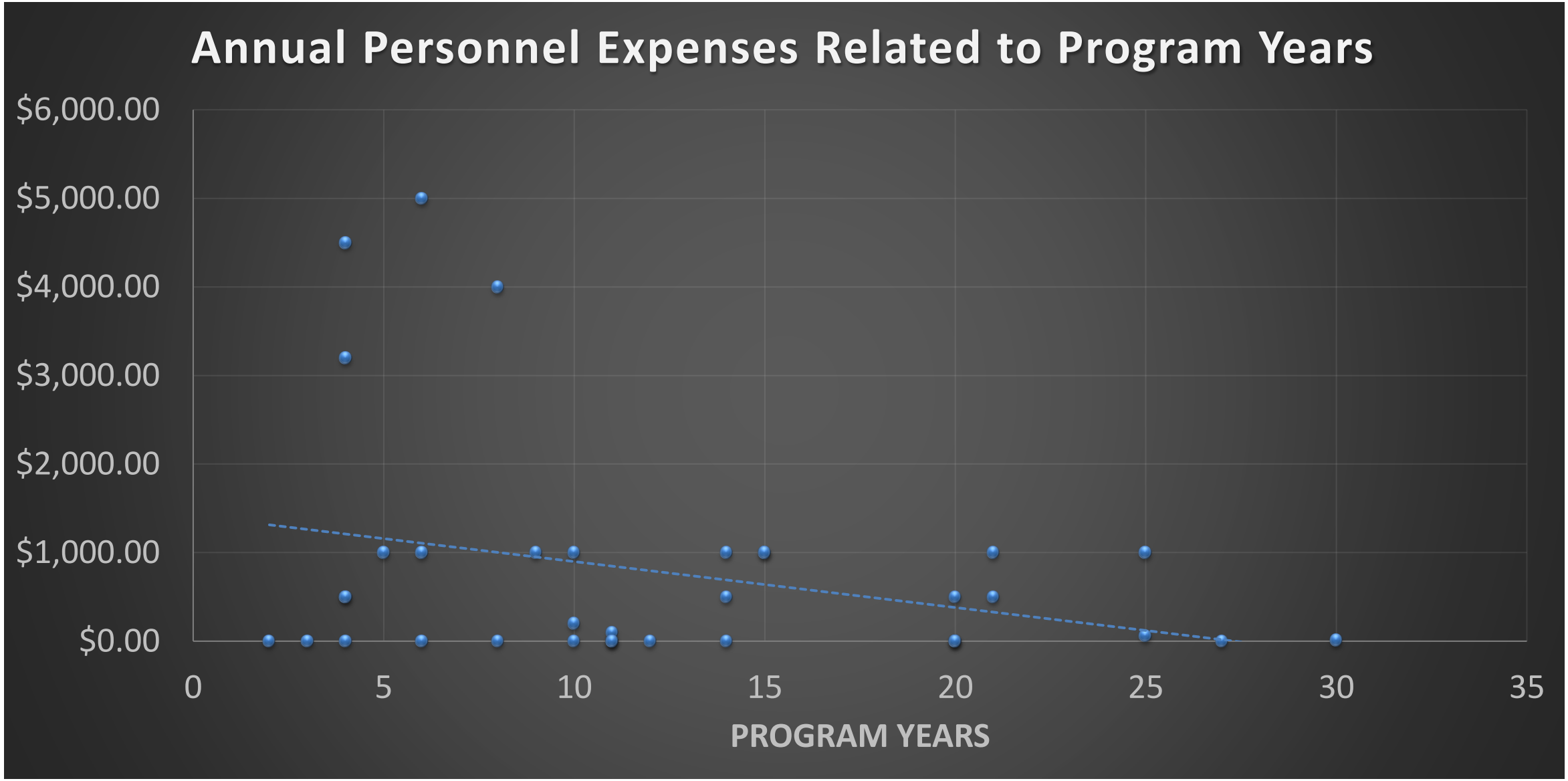

What effect has the deer hunting program had on your community overall?
13.5%
78.4%
64.9%
48.6%
21.2%
78.8%
1 Positive Effect
2 Positive Effects
No Effect
3 Positive Effects
All 4 Positive Effects

Incident	# Times Experienced	Likeliness of it Happening Annually
Had a citizen shot	0	0.0%
Vehicle shot	0	0.0%
Had a cat shot	2	0.4%
Had a dog shot	2	0.4%
Had a house shot	3	0.7%
Compliant of hunter field dressing deer	5	1.1%
Issued citation for hunter not following rules	32	7.0%
Told hunter they are no longer allowed to hunt	57	12.4%
Complaint of a hunter being visible	77	16.7%

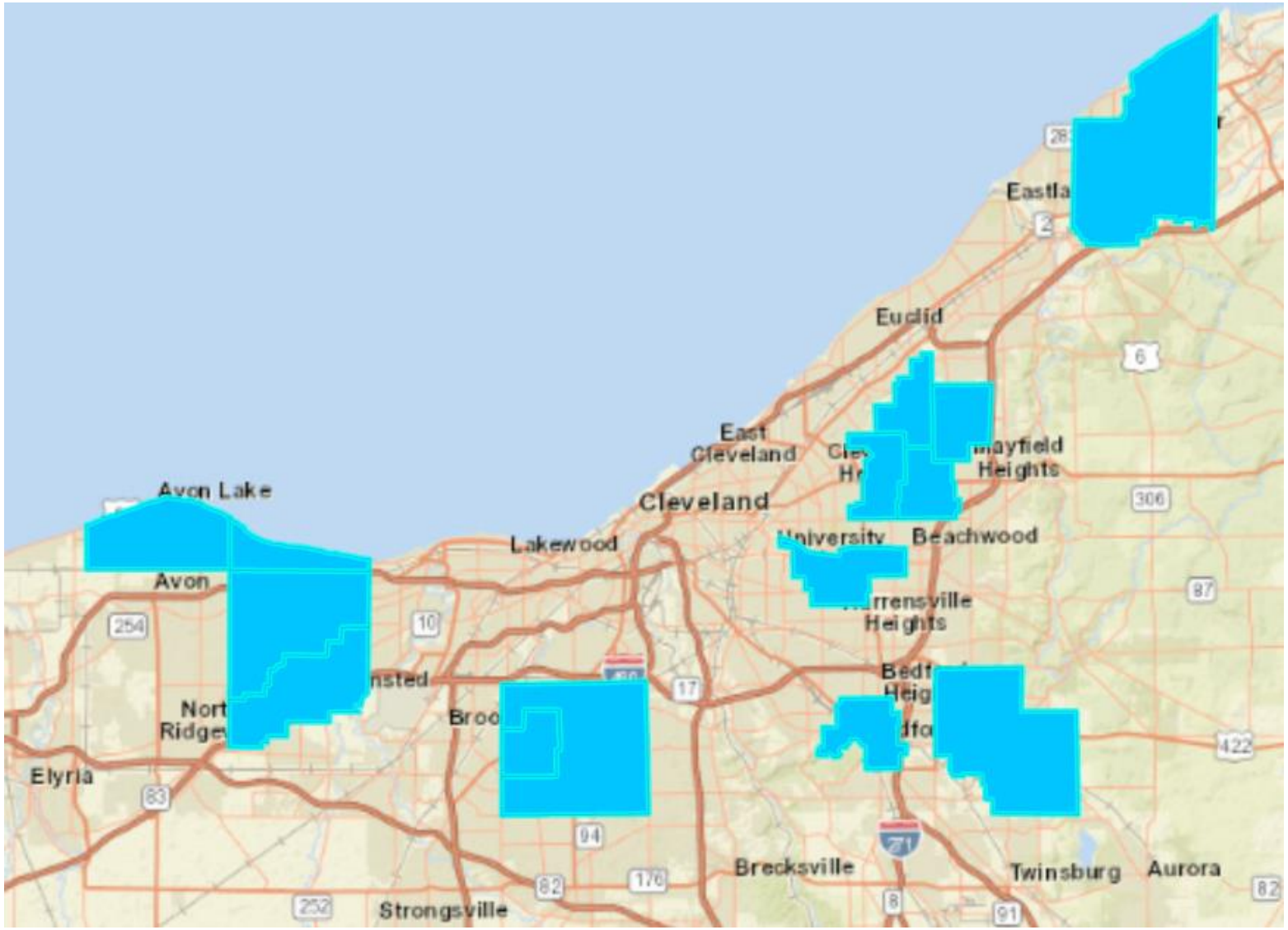
Number of Incidents/program years



Situation	Average Number of Times/Year Experienced
Hunter attempted to sue city over injury	0.00
Hunter injured due to falling out of treestand	0.13
Deer running around with an arrow sticking out of it	0.43
Hunter trespassing on property they don't have permission to be on to retrieve deer they shot	0.61
Deer died on someone else's property where the hunter didn't have permission to hunt	0.87
Hunter hunting on property they don't have persmission to hunt on	0.91


Annual Personnel Expenses Related to Program Years
$6,000.00
$5,000.00
$4,000.00
$3,000.00
$2,000.00
$1,000.00
$0.00
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
PROGRAM YEARS

Targeted Deer Removal Programs



Targeted Deer Removal Programs

Permit Required from Division of Wildlife

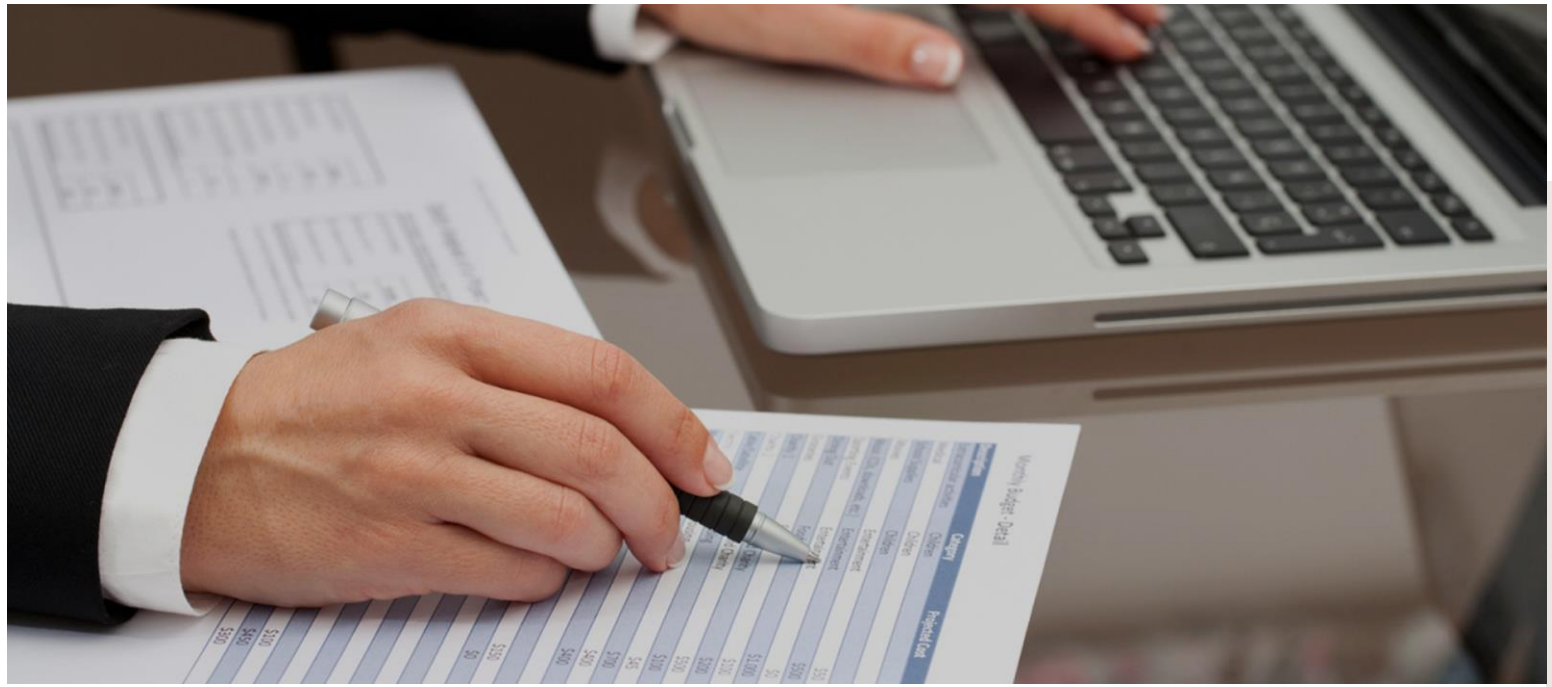
City Submits Request for Removal

Deer Management Proposal
Request for
City of Beachwood
For the 2021/2022 Season

Requested Number of Deer to Remove

The city requests permission to remove ____ deer. While the city, using in part the data supplied in this request, feels that the requested number of tags seems appropriate, the city understands that the Division of Wildlife may want to discuss a deviation from the requested number of deer and will work with the Division of Wildlife for an agreed upon number of deer to be permitted to be removed. The city would like to request the following special conditions be considered for the permit (write "N/A" if no special conditions are being requested):

Request Reviewed By Division of Wildlife



Permit Issued

Control Permit Number: **7491**
Key: **87054610224**

Division of Wildlife
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
DEER DAMAGE CONTROL PERMIT

DNR 9004

The following permit is issued to:

Sam O'Connell — (Name of Landowner, Lessee, or Agent)
(440) 974-5717 — (Phone No. w/Area Code)

8500 Civic Center Blvd. — (Mailing Address)
Mentor — (City)
44060 — (Zip Code)

This permit may be utilized on the following properties in Lake County:

Address (closest road intersection if no address)
1. ☐ Mailing Address (if checked)
2. City owned/managed properties
3. Private property in cooperation with the city
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.

Only the below listed shooters may be present while pursuing deer utilizing this Deer Damage Control Permit:
- All shooters (except for Ohio resident landowners, their spouses, and children) must have a current Ohio hunting license to take deer under this permit.
- All shooters are subject to a background check and may be denied as a shooter if they have been convicted of a prior wildlife or weapons offense.

Shooter's Legal Name	Date of Birth
1. Mentor Police Officers	1/1/2020
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

This permit shall be in effect from **January 26, 2021** to **March 31, 2021**

This permit authorizes the killing of a total of **105** deer on properties listed on this permit.

The following types of deer may be killed: ☐ Antlerless deer ☐ Antlered deer

The following must be notified: (not required to notify if "N/A" is written).

before shooting each day: **N/A** at ( )
after shooting each day with the number of deer shot: **N/A** at ( )

Special conditions of this permit: **Special conditions are contained in the letter emailed to you and shall be attached to this permit. This permit notes an increase from 80 to 105 deer and shall replace the previously issued permit.**

(Initials) I acknowledge that if I am not the landowner, I must have written permission from the landowner prior to utilizing this permit to conduct control activities on the listed property(ies).

(Initials) I certify that I have read and understood all of the rules and conditions for the use of this permit listed on the front and back of this permit. Further, I understand that any failure to comply with all of the provisions of this permit will result in its immediate revocation and that any misuse of this permit will result in prosecution. I also understand that this permit does not supersede, and I must adhere to, any local laws, rules, or ordinances that pertain to the roperties where this permit will be utilized.

(Initials) I certify that all statements made by me in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and that I understand that knowingly and willfully providing false information and applying for this permit/license is a violation of Section 2921.13 of the Ohio Revised Code for which I am subject to arrest.

(Signature of Landowner, Lessee, or Agent) (Date)

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MIKE DEWINE, GOVERNOR — MARY MERTZ, DIRECTOR

Kendra S. Wecker, Chief
Division of Wildlife
2045 Morse Rd, Building G
Columbus, Ohio 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6300

Special Conditions Letter for Deer Damage Control Permit #7422

December 17, 2020

Ms. Jeri Chaikin
City of Shaker Heights
3355 Lee Rd
Shaker Heights, OH 44149

Dear Ms. Chaikin,

Your request for a deer damage control permit to conduct a white-tailed deer population management program within the City of Shaker Heights in Cuyahoga County has been received and thoroughly reviewed in accordance with the requirements of Ohio Administrative Code 1501:31-15-08 and Ohio's Deer Damage Procedure (Procedure 58). I have conducted a site visit within the city and while I am approving your request to continue the deer management program in Shaker Heights this season, it should be noted that based on my evaluation of your deer management program and using population modeling, the removal of only forty (40) deer will likely result in a continued increase in the deer in Shaker Heights. This assessment is the same assessment noted on last two season's special conditions letter as well. Therefore, I am expecting that as the management progresses this season that assessments are made to determine if a need for increasing the number of deer removed this removal season and if additional deer need to be removed that a request is made by the city for an increase in the number of deer permitted to be removed.

The Division of Wildlife issues DDCP's to address situations where the use of hunting has not or cannot adequately address identified issues. In my professional assessment there are areas within the City of Shaker Heights where hunting can safely be conducted. It is the recommendation of the Division of Wildlife that the city modify the codified ordinances to allow hunting and where feasible the use of hunting should be used to supplement the DDCP. Not only will this supplement the deer culling, but would also extend the deer management season, allow for localized deer

Logistics

- Creation/review of deer management plan
- Collate/gather data
- Annual paperwork for Division of Wildlife
- Permit application
- Getting permissions/sites for shooting
- Operational updates with city council/staff
- Dealing with bids/contracts for operations
- Purchasing equipment
- Identifying needed equipment
- Shooting the deer (including practicing)
- Field dressing the deer
- Hauling deer to the processor
- Coordinating deer receipting/donation
- Security detail

Operations Options

Wildlife Services

Protecting People | Protecting Agriculture | Protecting Wildlife

NATIONAL WILDLIFE CONTROL OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

NWCOA

COMPETENCE INTEGRITY SERVICE

BEACHWOOD CLEVELAND HTS. EUCLID SHAKER HTS. SOUTH EUCLID UNIVERSITY HTS.

MEDIC EDGE SWAT UNIT

POLICE ONE SHOT ONE SAVE EDGE SNIPER UNIT

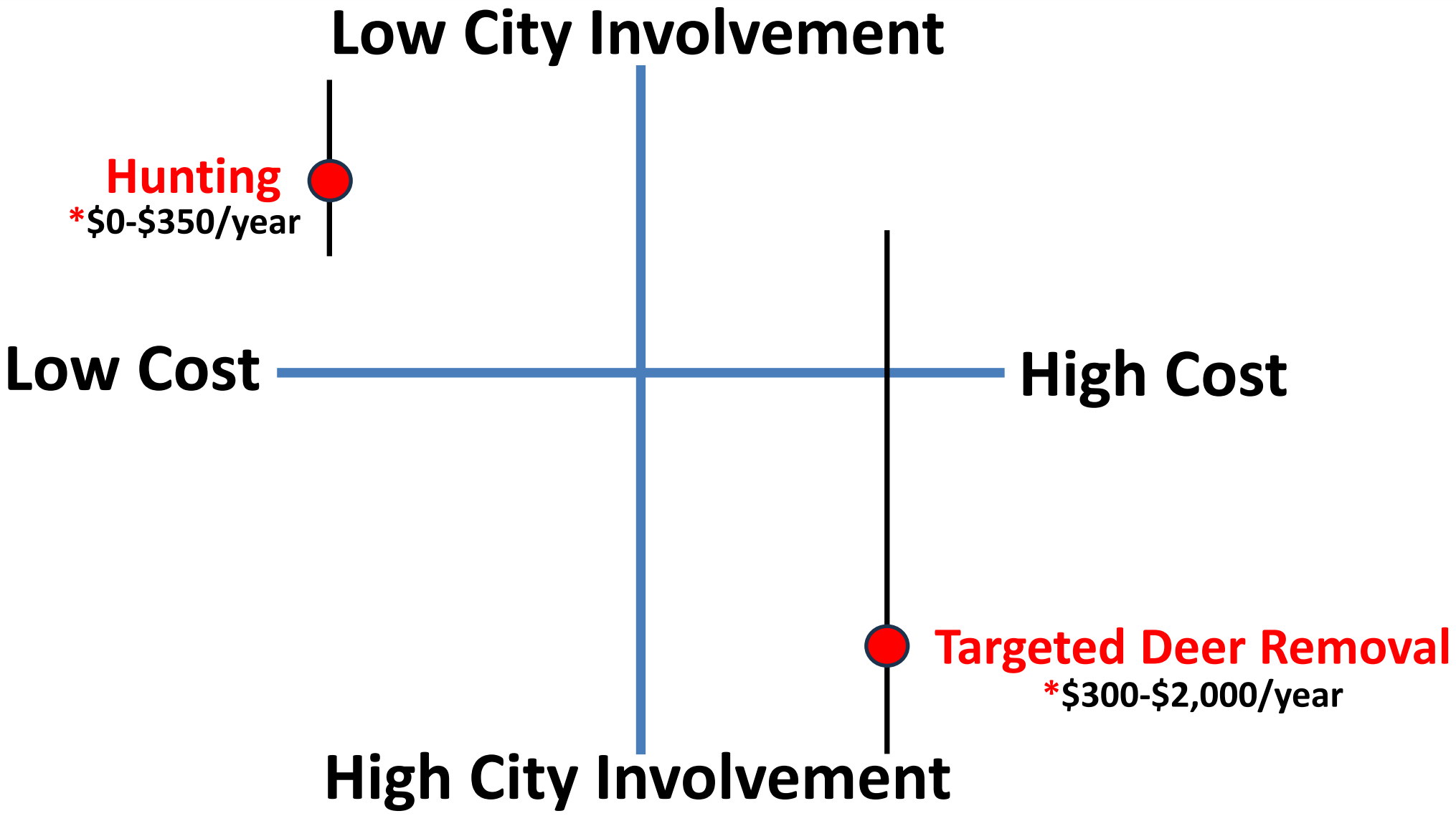
POLICE EDGE SWAT UNIT

EASTSIDE DEPARTMENTS TAX PER COMPROMISSIO EDGE CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

POLICE EDGE MOBILE FIELD FORCE

EASTSIDE DEPARTMENTS GROUP ENFORCEMENT

General Costs * - Costs are range estimates!!!!



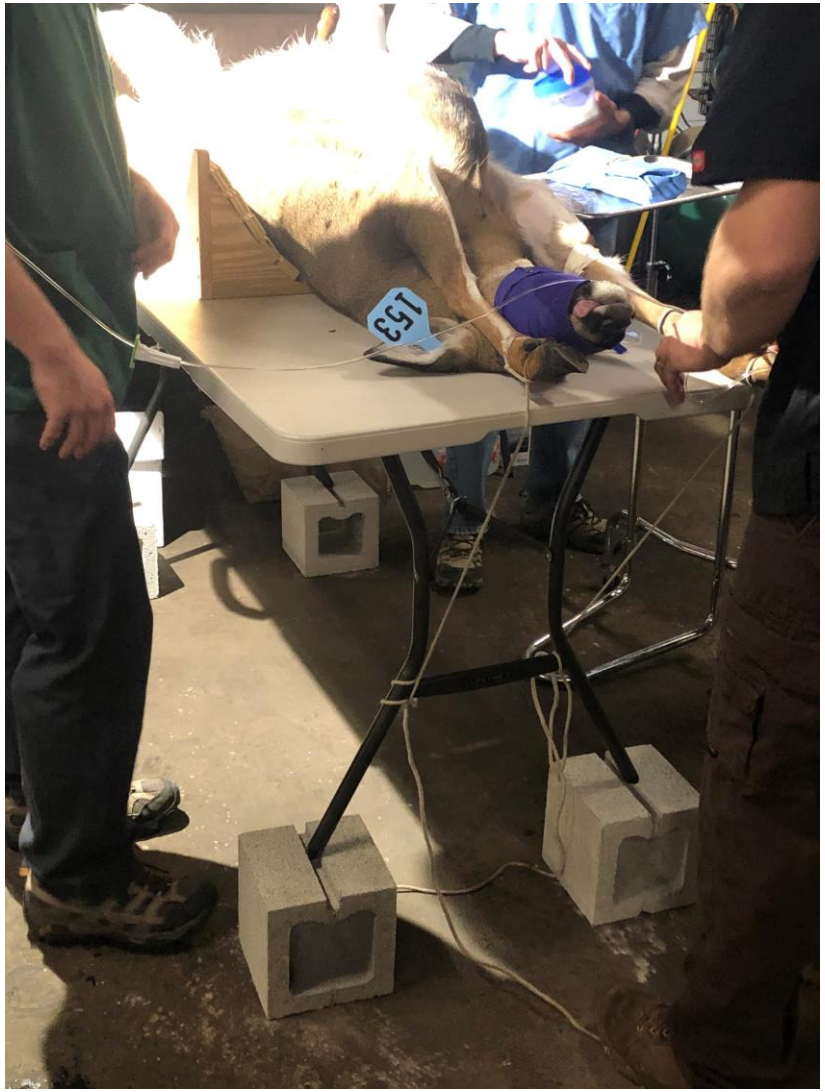
Cost Variables

Getting to the Finish Line

5 Years

5 Years

Fertility Control



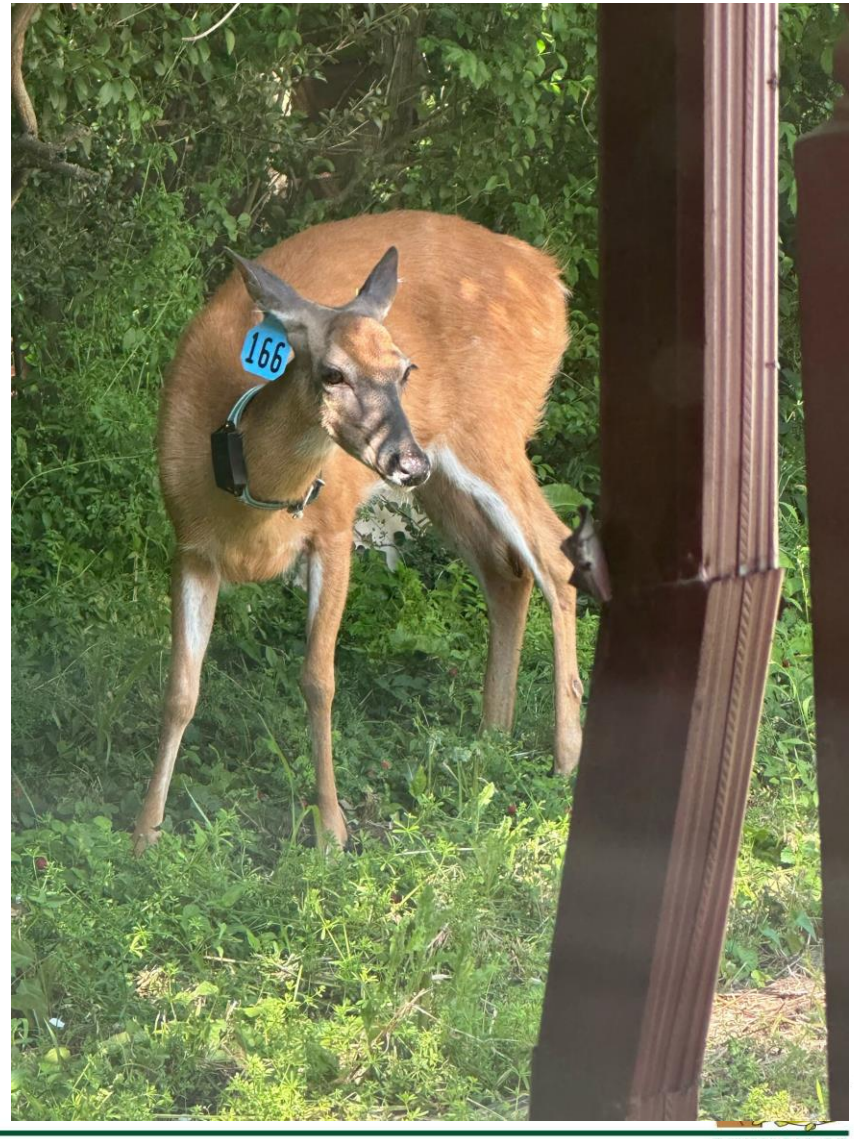
Considerations

- High cost
- Highly invasive to the animal
- Biological changes
- Deer consumption issue
- Deer still causing issues
- Likely requires lethal control

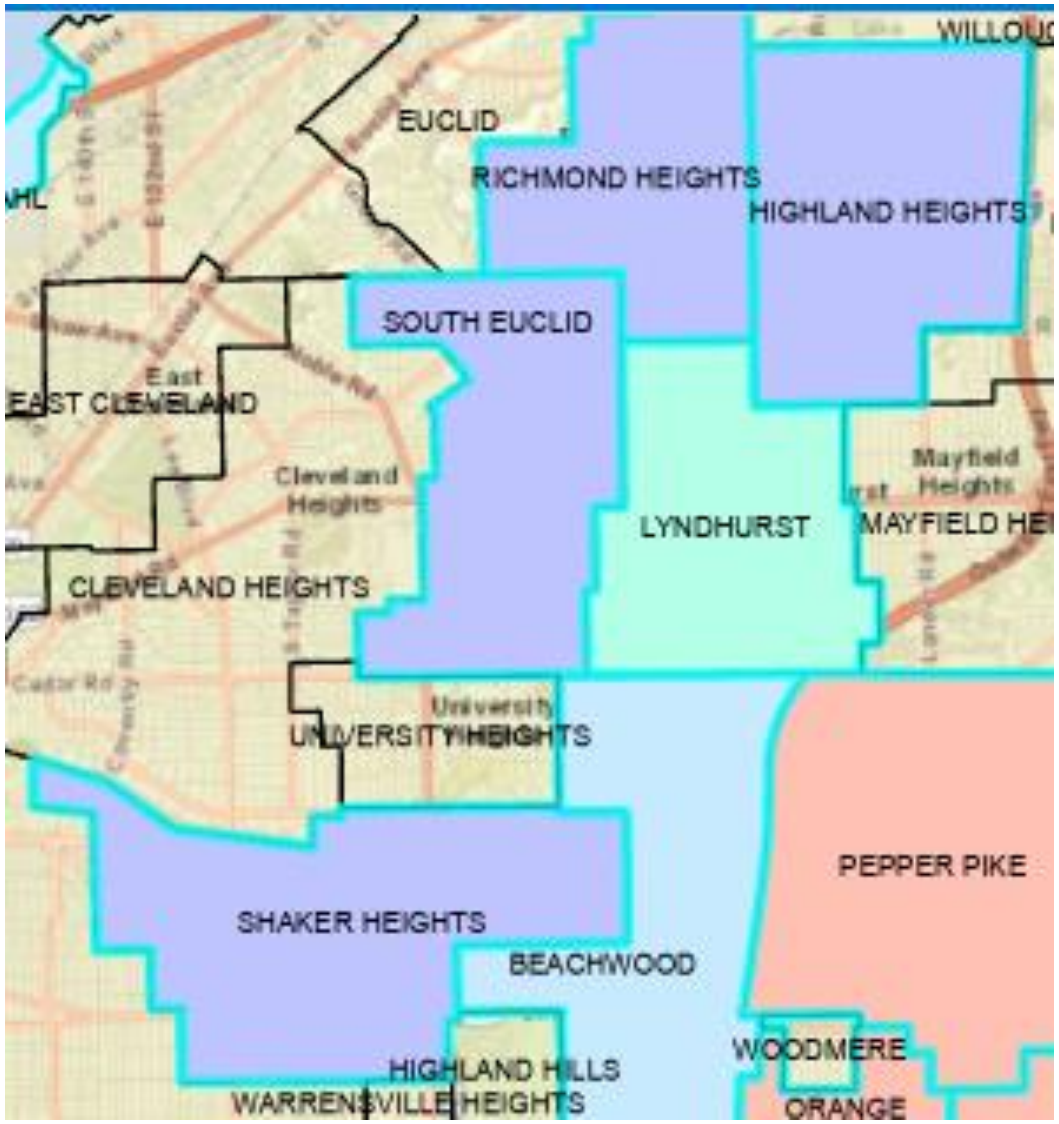
South Euclid Project

Year	Shooting	Sterilization
1	60	N/A
2	101	61
3	118	43
4	56	18
	$425/deer	$3,500/deer

* - Costs are approximates!!!!



South Euclid Project



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