

Deer Management Program

August 25, 2026

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Agenda

01 Welcome & Opening Remarks

02 Agenda/Instructions

03 The Issue

04 Deer Management Program

05 Panel Discussion

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Audience Q&A Instructions

- **Hold questions for now**
- We will hand out comment cards
- Write your questions during the panel discussion
- We will collect then ask your questions
- The panelists will respond

Please be polite, respectful and kind

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Speakers/Panelists



Barbara Ray

Wildlife & Nature Education
Coordinator, City of Dublin



Gabe Karns

School of Environment &
Natural Resources,
The Ohio State University



Geoff Westerfield

Assistant Wildlife Management
Supervisor at Ohio Division of
Wildlife, The Ohio Department
of Natural Resources

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The Issue

Presented by Mitchell Ament, Management Analyst



Ethical Statement

The City of Dublin is committed to responsible and ethical wildlife management that preserves ecological balance, protects public safety and reflects community values. Deer are an important part of the natural environment, and their management requires a careful, science-based approach to ensure the deer population's long-term health and our community's long-term safety.

Deer Overpopulation

Impacts to the City of Dublin's ecosystem

Excessive browsing leads to reduced biodiversity and can prevent the growth of native plants, reducing habitat for birds, pollinators and other wildlife.

Impacts to the deer

Without a thoughtful deer management strategy, overpopulation can lead to poor health, increased disease and more aggressive behavior

Aggressive Deer Incidents

Residents have reported several incidents, including:

- Deer attacking, stomping, kicking, goring, charging or otherwise injuring a pet
- Stalking and chasing pets and people
- Damage to property



We need a solution that restores ecological balance, improves public safety and maintains a healthier deer population over time

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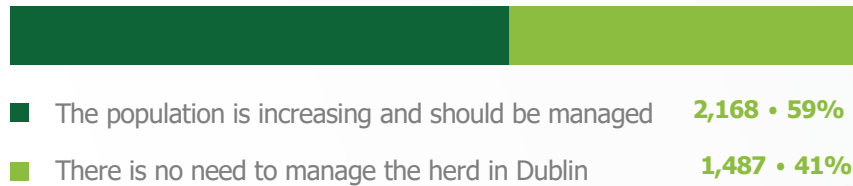
Deer Management Background

Active discussion and monitoring since February 2022

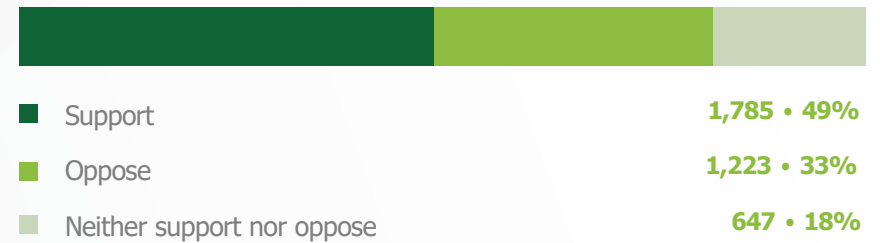
November 27, 2023	Outdoor feed ordinance is adopted by City Council
November 25, 2024	Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) presents to Community Services Advisory Committee (CSAC)
February 11, 2025	CSAC discussion
January 6, 2026	Resident survey is launched (open seven weeks)
January 14, 2026	CSAC reviews updated data and benchmarks

Survey Results

Do you think the deer population in Dublin should be managed?



What is your opinion about the use of lethal methods to regulate the local deer population, assuming regulations are established for safety?



3,656
responses

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Deer Management Background

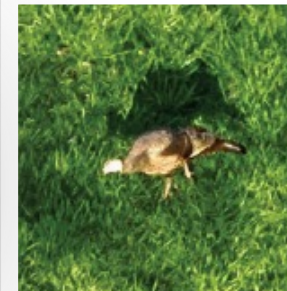
February 10, 2026	CSAC reviews survey, hears from OSU/Metro Parks experts
February 24, 2026	Dublin Police conduct deer population survey by drone
March 9, 2026	CSAC report presented to City Council
April 20, 2026	Council hears from OSU, Metro Parks and ODNR experts
April 24 to 27	Citywide deer population index surveyed by drone

Citywide Deer Population Index Survey

528 deer

were counted, establishing a baseline population index

- Flew two high-resolution thermal imaging drones in the evening from Friday to Monday in late April
- Hotspots aligned with zones where Dublin Police flew in February
- Findings from both surveys sent to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to inform removal location discussions



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Deer Management Background

May 11, 2026

Council directs staff to begin contract negotiations

June 8, 2026

Council unanimously approves Resolution 28-26, authorizing a contract with USDA for a deer management program

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Targeted Removal Program

As part of a **comprehensive deer management strategy**, trained and licensed wildlife management professionals from the USDA will begin conducting targeted deer removal



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Safe Operations

- Trained, licensed professionals
- Dublin Police will provide an escort to ensure the designated area is clear
- Signage at removal areas
- Deer will be transported off-site for processing, away from public view



Where

- USDA will make a data-driven strategic decision on removal sites, in partnership with Dublin Police, based on higher deer densities, aggression reports, collisions and other information
 - Mostly on City-owned land (not individual residences), following strict safety and humane standards

Safety is our top priority

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When

November 1–March 31

Targeted removals will occur intermittently as needed between November 1 and March 31

Notifications:

- A citywide mailer
- Signs posted at removal areas
- City website and social media
- HOA outreach

Sustainability & Community Impact

- All venison will be donated to the Dublin Food Pantry
- Remaining organic material composted through sustainable practices



Dublin Food Pantry

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Panel Discussion



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What's Next?

- Public Information Meeting #2 on October 8
- The City of Dublin's cooperative service agreement extends from November 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027
- Operations will be conducted during this timeframe
- Once the City determines specifically when and where targeted removals will take place, residents will receive updates

The City of Dublin deeply values the safety and well-being of its residents and recognizes the importance of keeping the community informed throughout the process

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Thank You!

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