

BOXWOOD GREEN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION URBAN ARCHER PROGRAM

Purpose: To establish policies for using the Urban Archer Program (UAP) aimed at culling the deer population in the Boxwood Green Homeowners Association.

Background: There are an estimated 925,000 deer in the State of Virginia; more than 56,000 in Franklin County. At the time of this policy's initiation, there are two herds in the Boxwood Green neighborhood each with 12 or more Whitetail bucks and does. Whitetail does normally reproduce during their second year, but this may occur as early as seven months. Normally, one fawn is produced during the first pregnancy, but two to three are not uncommon.

The deer population has increased steadily during the last few years. It is typical to see deer roaming the neighborhood at any time of the day or evening. Many neighbors have expressed concern about deer damage to flowers, shrubbery, bushes, and even trees. The deer are also a concern to those driving in the neighborhood, a front-on collision between a resident's car and a deer, occurring on Boxwood Green Drive in 2023. Deer are subject to numerous diseases including Lyme disease, which can be communicated to pets through ticks, and wasting disease.

Other nearby communities have successfully used the UAP to safely cull herds to a manageable number. The Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Wildlife Resources has approved our neighborhood's participation in the UAP beginning in the fall of 2024. Boxwood Green property members were surveyed and invited to a community meeting to meet with DWR representatives. The survey of the Association's members showed the majority of the community approves the program. Meat not utilized by the hunters will be donated to Hunters for the Hungry program, a 501 (c) (3) charity.

Policies. The following policies are adopted:

1. All participating archers in the UAP will comply with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources Hunting and Trapping Regulations and Urban Archery Deer Season guidelines.
2. UAP managers, appointed by the Board, will provide the Board with preseason and postseason updates each year.
3. Common area boundaries where UAP hunting will occur will be marked. Signs will be posted notifying the neighborhood when this common area is being hunted during the season.
4. The neighborhood will be notified, with physical signs and by email, of each year's UAP **season** dates.
5. Before hunting is done on individual properties, a date/time will be established between the property owner and the archer.
6. Hunting stands may be established on common areas by UAP managers.

7. UAP archers will strictly abide by property owner preferences as filed by the BGHOA secretary, for 1) allowing hunting on homeowner property, 2) no hunting/only retrieving deer from property, 3) no hunter trespass on homeowner property.
8. UAP archers will not retrieve deer remains from any property where the property owner has not given permission. The program manager will notify the property owner of the fallen deer.
9. Any Association member who does not give permission for retrieval will be responsible for the removal of the deer.

Approved by the Board 2/15/2024