



Village of Sagaponack

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Mayor
William F. Tillotson
Clerk-Treasurer
Rosemarie Cary Winchell
Village Attorney
Brian T. Egan, Esq. – Egan & Golden LLP

Trustees
William Barbour
Carrie Thayer Crowley
Mark Landis
David McMillan Jr.

VIA EMAIL

September 2024

RE: Wild Life Management Program

Dear Property Owner:

In 2018, the Village of Sagaponack established a Wild Life Management Program to address the explosive population of deer within the Village. Our program is a multi-year program which is designed to reduce the deer population to a healthy level for both the deer and the residents of Sagaponack. After 6 years, we can report that the program is fully developed and implemented.

Our program is managed by Woods & Waves Management Inc. who trains, certifies and monitors the 183 volunteer hunters that are involved in our program. At any given time, Woods & Waves can identify the location, name and vehicle of the hunter who is hunting under our program within the Village. The hunting season begins in October and ends in January. However, given the size of the deer population in the Village, we have been given approval by the NYS DEC to extend our season into April.

When we started our program in 2018, Woods & Waves began conducting annual studies on deer densities within the Village. These studies concluded that deer *sightings per hour* (SPR – a metric to measure the density of deer population) were the highest of all of the east end deer programs. Since then, 779 deer have been safely removed with no negative impacts to the residents. The reduction of 603 female deer has prevented the birth of approximately 1,206 additional fawns to the area (assuming 2 fawns per doe). This is an estimated reduction of 1,985+ deer (1,206 fawns not introduced +779 deer removed) not occupying Sagaponack. There is a steady downward trend in SPR over the past 6 years further confirming the reduction in deer population.

The measurement of success for our program is the reduction in the deer population which will result in:

- less tick borne disease infections
- native vegetation re-growth
- less damage to ornamental bushes, trees and gardens
- reduction in damage to Sagaponack farms and crops
- reduced car vs. deer accidents.

On October 1 we will begin the seventh year of our program. Many of your neighbors currently allow for hunting on their properties and we have received no complaints or had any issues with the hunters placed on these properties. As we enter our seventh year of the program, we are looking to expand the number of properties to offer greater success of our program. The protection of your property and plantings from the numerous deer herd is a benefit you are entitled to as a resident of Sagaponack.

Woods & Waves continues to assess the seasonal migration of the deer population within the Village to determine what areas would afford us the greatest success to achieve our goals. We are offering this program to you to protect your family and property. If you are interested in the program or have any questions, please contact me at Village Hall via email, phone or in person. All my contact information is listed above.

If you wish to be part of the program please complete the attached *Land Owners Endorsement* form supplied by the NYSDEC and email, mail or deliver to the village office.

Thank you for your consideration in becoming an active participant in our program. If you are already participating in the program, we appreciate your cooperation which has allowed for its success.

Sincerely,



Rosemarie Cary Winchell, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer

CC: Mayor Tillotson and Board of Trustees
John Rocchetta – Woods and Waves Management Inc.

Landowner's Permission to Discharge within 500' of a Building

I, _____, being the owner of occupied building(s) located within
(your name)
500 feet of the boundary of property owned by _____, do
hereby grant permission to said property owner and/or his designated agents, to discharge:
bows and arrows within 150 feet or shotgun with slugs only (circle one or both) within 500 feet of
buildings owned by me.

Such permission is granted only for shooting under the auspices of a Nuisance Deer Permit issued by the
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and only during the following hours:

_____ All Times _____, and on the following dates: _____ All Dates _____.

Signature: _____ Date: 2022 - 2025

Phone: Cell- _____ Email: _____

Street Address: _____

Town: _____

Special Conditions, if any, that must be adhered to by shooters who are granted permission to discharge
a firearm within 500' of my dwelling: _____

Hunter will text home owner before hunting - Please include cell phone number above
