

Your work has kept us busy this year with primarily positive results. We now urgently need your help carry out our most important task; to bring PZP Immune-contraception to the forefront of deer management and stop the slaughter of our current population by mercenary, out-of town hunting clubs. Please donate what ever you can by clicking the button at the bottom of this page. All donations are 100% tax deductible. THANK YOU!

- Although we ultimately lost our lawsuit against the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the ensuing negative publicity, in combination with the East Hampton Group for Wildlife's suit against East Hampton sent the USDA sharpshooters packing. It's unlikely they will come back anytime soon.
- We supported East Hampton Village in their pursuit of non-lethal deer population control. Although sterilization is not our optimal choice, it is a huge improvement to officials simply choosing to kill deer. There have been two or three very unfortunate deaths that may or may not be related to the sterilization project, but we do not know at present if there was any direct connection. The majority of negative publicity concerning the sterilization deaths, ironically, comes from hunters, mostly from the group Hunters For Deer ("HFD"). They do not appear to be concerned for the health of the does. Instead, their main concern appears to be that should sterilization be successful, hunters' services will no longer be required to hunt deer in our neighborhoods.
- Hunters For Deer ("HFD") in Remsenburg

Two years ago, we joined forces with Hunters For Deer ("HFD") to strengthen our fight against the DEC and USDA. They had pledged to help us dart deer with immuno-contraception and to become deer overseers for neighborhoods in Southampton Town to respond to complaints and problems. The plan was to mitigate these conflicts on the ground before any lethal action was even considered. Initially, we had concerns about working with this group and, unfortunately, our concerns were well-founded. Before our lawsuit was even decided, the moment hunting season began last October, HFD had already been working with military efficiency to organize into an army of over 400 paid members to solicit private property owners to allow them to hunt deer with compound bows on their properties. This was accomplished due to the change in the hunting setback law from 500' from a domicile to only 150'. This meant that these hunters could kill deer on properties that were only 1.5 acres, as opposed to 8 acres or more, shooting razor-sharp arrows that travel over 300 feet per second.

Before we were even aware of their secretive plans, they had already systematically presented proposals to several East End Community organizations, such as Remsenberg, Hampton Bays and West Hampton utilizing the same Lyme Disease/car collision scare tactics that the USDA has utilized to convince property owners to sign on. They are now marching across the East End, slaughtering deer wherever they convince property owners to allow them, claiming that hunting is the only solution to the "deer problem". There is no oversight and no signage to indicate to neighbors that this dangerous activity is going on in their midst. Starting October 1, they could have been hunting on your neighbor's property, or they may be hunting there right now. They are free to do this until the end of December.

The D.E.C. is blind to the possible accidents/human error that may occur and, instead, appears to be thrilled that they are doing their job for them.

- In May, we joined forces with a group of residents from Remsenburg who had organized to form the group "Deer Safe" in response to seeing their deer population decimated by HFD this past winter. Through the WPCOLI non-profit, we mailed out over 38,000 postcards to everyone in Southampton Town to let them know HFD were executing deer at dawn and dusk from October to the end of December in their neighborhoods. It was our hope that we would be able to inform residents about HFD and the new setback law so that they would not participate with this dangerous group and that they will help us protest against the reduced set-back law.

. This past October, at the start of hunting season we began receiving desperate calls from residents all over Eastern Long Island. Many of these calls were from residents of Belle Terre, Asharoken and Head of Harbor whose Mayors were trying to remove the hunting ban in their villages or whose Supervisors had summarily removed bans without a public vote. We joined forces and due to the resulting cries of protest on the street and in the Village Halls against bow hunting BelleTerre effectively tore up their plans and Head of Harbor indefinitely delayed any vote, assigning a Deer Advisory Committee to make recommendations.

We have since formed a kind of emergency response team to help stop this rowdy invasion of compound bow trophy hunters. Coordinating with residents who ask for help in both Suffolk and Nassau counties we help them with petitions, protests and attend Local Board meetings armed with information on Immuno-contraception and Four Poster Deer Tick stations. We already have several Hamlets who want to begin contraception programs.

To date, several powerful hunting groups from all over Long Island have now joined in the heated competition for properties to hunt on. They are after the large bucks who have been using these populated residential areas as safe havens. Some have started "Guided Hunting" businesses where for a fee they will bring anyone to the private properties who have signed on with them and will guarantee they will have the opportunity to kill a "World Class Buck". It's hard to even imagine that this could be legal, but through the great wisdom of the D.E.C., it is.

#### Immuno-contraception

This past June, I traveled with two other WPCOLI members to the Science and Conservation Center in Montana, to be trained and certified to "Remotely Deliver PZP Immuno-contraception in Wildlife." We now have three trained volunteers who can dart Does on the East End. We are in the process of setting up two projects now and will let you know as soon as we confirm the locations. We are also helping Fire Island residents to re-start their immuno-contraception program which was so successful almost twenty years ago. These residents also have installed two incredibly successful Four Poster Tick removal station on Fire Island which has allowed them to essentially wipe out the ticks in Saltair and Kismet. All the information you need to know about PZP Immune-contraception and much more can be found on our website: <http://www.wpceli.org>

We are committed to continuing to help fight off bow hunting in our small, once peaceful neighborhoods. We are committed to beginning local Contraception programs within one year's time and have volunteered our services to help organize these as well as to dart the deer remotely with the PZP inoculant. As a Board elected member of the Southampton Town Deer Protection and Management Committee I have been charged with seeing this through. We are convinced that this method of non-lethal deer population control is the answer for the East End and that once we have shown how effective this is, the East End Towns will opt for this simple and safe solution and reject killing.

We have done a great deal of work but we've only begun. Now we appeal to you all to help us continue our work. Please send whatever you can to help us pay for these ongoing and successful efforts as we build momentum proving that a non-lethal and humane solution to living with all of our wildlife is possible and in fact necessary to retain the beautiful, natural qualities of the East End as well as our own physical and emotional well being.

Thank you all for your time and all the very best,  
Wendy Chamberlin  
President  
WPCOLI

