



Kent County Road Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Township Supervisors and Staff
From: Bill Byrne, Assistant Director of Maintenance
Date: September 25, 2024
Subject: Deer Removal from Properties (Outside ROW)

We have recently received a higher volume of inquiries from residents requesting KCRC to remove deer from outside the right-of-way, specifically from residential and business properties. Below is information that can assist you and your staff when addressing these inquiries.

Important Guidelines for Residents:

- 1. Do Not Drag Dead Deer to the Roadside:**
 - Residents and business owners should **not** drag dead deer from their properties to the roadside.
 - KCRC crews prioritize the removal of large animals killed in vehicle collisions from the right-of-way to ensure safety for motorists.
- 2. KCRC's Role:**
 - KCRC is not a wildlife management agency, and we lack the necessary funding and resources to remove relocated or diseased animals. This activity detracts from our ability to focus on essential road maintenance.

3. Private Removal Services:

- Residents seeking to remove dead deer from their properties can contact private wildlife removal companies for assistance, typically for a fee. For example, **Rest in Peace (616-886-8639) is a local company addressing removal requests.** Their fees vary based on the accessibility of the carcass.

Additional Options Provided by the DNR:

- **Consult Trash Removal Companies:** Some companies offer large-item removal services for a small fee.
- **Burial or Natural Decomposition:** Residents may choose to bury the carcass or allow it to decompose naturally, providing food for wildlife.
- **Wildlife Removal Resources:** The DNR provides a list of nuisance wildlife companies by county on their website for further assistance.