

CITY OF FORT THOMAS
2008/2009 PROGRAM REPORT
ON
ARCHERY IN FORT THOMAS

May 4, 2009

INTRODUCTION

This annual report is compiled and submitted to provide information regarding the number of deer reported culled during the 2008/2009 program year, the number and nature of issues or reported violations of the program, the number of reported deer-vehicle accidents, and potential amendments to the program. For a more in-depth background report on the program, please refer to the "2007/2008 Program Report on Archery in Fort Thomas."

REVISED PROGRAM

After the initial pilot program which occurred during the 2006/2007 program year, city council amended the program requirements and ordinances. These amendments were in effect for the 2007/2008 program year. Subsequent to the completion of the 2007/2008 program year, city staff compiled a report entitled "City of Fort Thomas 2007/2008 Program Report on Archery in Fort Thomas." This report provided background information, as well as information beneficial to the members of City Council for use in determining program effectiveness and potential program amendments. On May 5, 2008, the Committee of the Whole met to discuss potential amendments to the program. On June 16, 2008, the Board of Council approved the following amendments to the program:

1. Arrows can only be discharged between the hours of 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM from November 1 through November 21 or from January 1 through the end of the Kentucky archery season for deer as established by the Commonwealth of Kentucky for that year or between the hours of 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM when such discharge occurs pursuant to a depredation permit issued by the Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife Resources. *(The previous restriction was limited to the Kentucky archery season for deer.)*
2. The person discharging the arrow must be at least 100 feet from a structure, house, apartment, business establishment, road, highway, expressway, railroad track, or park boundary – to the left or right of the direction the arrow is aimed and intended to travel. *(The previous restriction was 50 feet.)*
3. When the discharge occurs on a lot 3 acres or greater in area, or on a combination of contiguous lots under the same ownership which cumulatively are 3 acres or greater in area. The discharge of arrows cannot occur on any lot or parcel of property which is less than 3 acres in area. *(Previously, there was no lot size restriction.)*

Utilizing the services of the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission, a map of the city was created which delineated the location of each parcel 3 or more acres in size. This map, along with a revised copy of the archery program guidelines, was made available at the city building, on the city's website, and distributed to each residence in the city as part of the city's newsletter.

RESPONSE TO PROGRAM

Over the course of the last year, no residents have contacted the city to voice opposition to the program.

While certainly not quantifiable or statistically reliable, several residents have commented to city staff directly that they have noticed fewer deer in the city this year. Additionally, one ardent opponent of the original program indicated during a personal conversation that he felt the most recent amendments adequately addressed his safety concerns with the program.

Coincidentally, representatives from several other municipalities have contacted Fort Thomas for copies of the archery ordinance and program guidelines. These municipalities are considering implementing archery programs to address deer-related issues.

RESULTS OF PROGRAM

While there is no requirement imposed upon those who discharge arrows to report to the city the date and location where a deer is culled, they have been requested to do so. To date, 15 deer have been reported culled by hunters as part of the 2008/2009 program. All of these reports have occurred on parcels not less than 3 acres in size. In addition to the 15 deer reported culled, one deer was found on Stanberry Ridge with an arrow in its side. Including this deer, the number removed as a result of the 2008/2009 archery program is 16. By way of comparison, 42 deer were reported culled by hunters during the 2007/2008 program year.

Following is a list of streets/areas where deer were reported culled or found deceased:

Route 8	12
Crown Point	3
Stanberry Ridge	1

REPORTED VIOLATIONS OF THE PROGRAM

The city received one call/complaint in conjunction with the 2008/2009 program. A resident of Stanberry Ridge reported seeing a deer in her yard with an arrow protruding from its side. She asked the police to find and remove the deer. Upon arriving at the location the police were not able to locate the deer. This incident was not an apparent violation of the city ordinance. As a point of comparison, the city received 17 calls alleging violations of the city's archery ordinance in the previous year. Only four of these were substantiated as violations.

will be restricted to approximately 6:35 AM to 6:58 AM through 9:00 AM during the November time period; and restricted to approximately 7:27 AM to 7:23 AM through 9:00 AM during the January time period.

The city's original intent was to permit the discharge of arrows for the 3-hour period of time between 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM. However, when considering the "daylight hours" restriction imposed by the Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife Resources for hunting, the city has in essence established a time period of between 2 hours 25 minutes and 2 hours 2 minutes in November; and a time period of between 1 hour 33 minutes and 1 hour 37 minutes in January to discharge arrows for those wishing to hunt deer.

One caller suggested that the ordinance be amended to permit the discharge of arrows from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:00 AM during the November and January dates.

CONCLUSION

The 2008/2009 Archery Program concluded on January 19, 2009. There were fifteen deer reported culled in conjunction with the Archery Program. An additional deer was located which had been shot by an arrow, but not recovered by the hunter, as a result of the program. Combined, a total of 16 deer were culled in conjunction with the 2008/2009 Archery Program. There were no accidents or injuries reported in conjunction with the 2008/2009 Archery Program. There were no substantiated violations of the program requirements.