

I oppose **S.B. 83 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING BOW AND ARROW HUNTING ON SUNDAY**

There are already six (6) days available for bowhunting from mid-September to January 31. Excuses that hunters work is not acceptable – most people work. I would love nothing better than having only ONE day a week, Sunday, knowing that there is no hunting allowed on any of my neighbors' properties. Since bowhunting begins when foliage is still dense, weather is suitable for outdoor enjoyment until it turns cold, it is unconscionable that anyone would consider expanding bowhunting to Sundays, when people enjoy their leisure time. The safety is an issue, bowhunting is silent and deadly – hunters in camouflage sit in tree stands which could practically be on the border of anyone's property; they cannot be seen nor heard, whereas bowhunting on weekdays might be considered safer since people may not be using their backyards as likely. Please note that there are currently no required setbacks, nor notification of neighbors – both should be addressed in any bills, whether it be expansion of bowhunting to Sundays and/or all bowhunting!

According to studies, one more day of hunting (most hunters admit that it would be an alternate, not an additional day) will have absolutely no impact on deer populations (Smithsonian Institute conference on Deer Overabundance, McShea et al 1997) nor reductions of Lyme disease ((Ostfeld, 2011, Jordan et al, 2007). The number of hunters is now a mere 1% of the Connecticut population, and it is understandable that the DEEP would like to offer incentives to expand their base, but one more day of hunting is not the answer. The majority of non-hunting, non-consumptive outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts, in fact, contribute more revenues to our state than the small percentage of hunters.

Please consider opposition to an additional day of bowhunting in CT; non-hunting residents deserve to be heard and their views respected, considering that they are indeed in the majority!

Sincerely,

Natalie Jarnstedt

250 Stanwich Road

Greenwich, CT 06830

(203) 661-6855

atia2@optonline.net