

Hello,

I write this e-mail with a heavy heart, my wife has suffered for years with ongoing effects of several bouts of Lyme disease which has attacked her joints and given her heart arrhythmia. I also dare not get an outdoor pet for our son, because of the ticks.

Our property has deer traipsing all over it at night as I can see from their hoof prints in the snow. We need to reduce the herds. I have lived in this area for 58 years and never have I seen as many deer around as in recent decades.

I know that deer are not the sole vector for the ticks that carry lyme and other diseases, but they are a major factor, plus they eat all of the understory out of our woods, harming ecosystems for birds and amphibians, not to mention devouring our shrubbery.

I want to be able to have bowhunters come onto our property when the deer are around and do herd reduction, and not have to wait until the normal hunting season. please empower the DEEP commissioner to be able to issue permits for this important re-balancing of the ecosystem. People have made for this deer population explosion, and people should be allowed to undue some of the problem.

Sincerely,

Toby Welles and Mary Bailey, Redding CT

5412