

Sunday Hunting for Carroll Co. Public Hearing 2/10/11

On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA), the Maryland State Chapter and the local Bachman Valley Branch of QDMA and the 161 QDMA members living in Carroll County. Along with the 318 QDMA members living in the 3 surrounding counties and PA QDMA members that hunt deer in Carroll County. We would like to thank you for the opportunity to express our support for expanding Sunday Hunting to private property here in Carroll County.

In addition to our letter sent 1/31/11 to Delegates and County Commissioners, Sunday Hunting could provide additional opportunity for hunters to help DNR manage the local deer herd. Past Deer Harvest total harvest numbers support this needed change.

1980, 285 deer were harvested in Carroll

1990, 2,665 deer were harvested in Carroll

2000, 4,440 deer were harvested in Carroll

2010, 5,851 deer were harvested in Carroll

Along with these harvest histories, The MSC and BVB for the past 4 years have been conducting a camera survey study on Hashawha Enviromental property. Results from this study indicate an estimated deer population from 2008 to 2011 has increased 120%.

Deer-vehicle collision data obtained from State Farm Ins. Company estimates approximately 27,000 deer-vehicle collisions

in Maryland each of the last 7 years. Deer collected from SHA and County Roads in Carroll in 2005-06 reported 556 deer cleaned up. 2009-10 deer reported had grown to 895 deer collected from our road. That's nearly a 162% increase.

Will Sunday have a positive effect with managing our deer herd?

Hunters in the 19 counties where it is now permitted have harvested over 26,000 deer on Sundays over the past 8 years, with 4,749 deer harvested on Sundays during the 2010-11 hunting season.

Sunday Hunters statewide has contributed in a positive way from 2004-05 seasons to 2009-10 seasons with an increased total harvest of 222%. This represents Bow Hunters 188 deer harvested in 2004-05 to 614 in 2009-10 a 337% increase, and Firearm Hunters from 1,996 to 4,234 a 212% increase in the same time period.

This proposed legislation only effects Sunday Hunting on Private Property, as it is regulated that hunters that do not own the property they are hunting are required to have written permission to do so.

While any Sunday hunting will have a positive benefit to most Carroll county residents, limiting the Sundays would have an effect on measurable results to deer management. We would like for you to consider upgrading to at least 5 and 1 Sundays as our neighboring county Frederick and other counties which have already implemented.

QDMA would like to thank you for giving us opportunity to be part of the decision making process and being able to voice our support for Sunday Hunting in Carroll County.