

November 5, 2014

To the Residents of Ogden Dunes,

On October 27, 2014, the Town of Ogden Dunes was issued a special purpose deer control permit by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources authorizing a deer cull in the Town.

The Town has had several conversations with personnel of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park (IDNL) urging the IDNL to hold a cull around the areas of our Town or let Ogden Dunes cull deer on IDNL land around our borders. They declined the Town doing a cull on Park land near our borders. As of this writing, it is unknown as to the dates or locations of any culls by IDNL.

As authorized by the Town Council on November 3, 2014, I have directed the Town Marshal to initiate the cull when he determines it is safe to do so, in accordance with the conditions specified in the valid permit issued to the Town. The permitted cull period is November 14, 2014 through January 30, 2015.

The cull will utilize experienced sharpshooters. They will work under the direction of the Marshal and the Ogden Dunes Police Department.

The Department of Natural Resources, DNR, approved the use of the four areas requested in the application the Town submitted. As of this writing, the plan is to initially use the designated culling areas: Suerenity Park, an area near and southeast of the fire department station and Hillcrest Park, south of the fire department. All these areas were inspected in the past by personnel from the DNR.

During the permitted cull period Suerenity Park and Hillcrest Park will be closed to prevent danger to persons. The Town garage area will be restricted, as will an area around the fire department station. These areas will be clearly marked. Other notices will be posted on the Town web site, Town hall entry way, the Town mobile electronic sign board and the Ogden Dunes TV channel.

The permit allows culling from ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset. The culling will be done only on weekdays, Monday through Friday. Culling will not be done at each location every day. No cull will take place on weekends. Culling will not be done on non-school days, following the Portage Township School system's calendars for both the elementary and secondary levels. Culling will not be done November 17, 2014. Culling will not be done over the Thanksgiving weekend period of November 27 through November 30, 2014. Culling will not be done the period of Christmas and New Year's, December 20, 2014 through January 4, 2015. Culling will not be done January 14, 2015. The last day of the cull would be January 30, 2015 according to the schedule and the school calendar. There may be several periods when the cull is not going to be conducted, dependent on conditions. There is no requirement that the cull must be conducted daily.

The Town will continue to explore all reasonable options for controlling the deer population in Ogden Dunes in the future.

Any necessary announcements will be put on the Town web site, the Town mobile electronic sign board, the Ogden Dunes TV channel and postings will be put up at the Town hall entry way.

Allen Johnson

Town Council Vice President