

**City of Cranbrook and Province of British Columbia**

# Urban Deer Management Annual Report 2011

Urban Deer Cull Pilot Project and Municipal Urban Deer Public  
Education

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## **Background: Provincial**

In some southern B.C. communities there are increasing numbers of human-deer conflicts in urban and rural areas. Deer numbers have increased dramatically in these areas, presumably because residential areas offer protection from predators, and because they provide an abundance of food including unnatural food that the public are feeding to deer. Urban sprawl is also contributing to this trend as more deer habitat is converted into residential areas. This is more than an animal nuisance issue, as increasing vehicle collisions and human conflicts with deer are impacting public safety.

While deer are not classified as dangerous wildlife by the Provincial government, they can act aggressively to protect themselves or their fawns from perceived threats from dogs or humans. Deer aggression has been escalating in several B.C. and Alberta communities with high densities of urban deer. In the last few years, mule deer attacking dogs has become a fairly common occurrence in some southern communities. In some communities, this aggressive behavior has escalated to threats towards human safety with deer chasing baby strollers, tourists and local residents without dogs.

In 2009, the Ministry of Environment (MOE) contracted a biologist to write a report entitled “British Columbia Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis”. The purpose of the document was to review urban deer management options and provide mitigation recommendations.

Much work has been done in 2010 and 2011. To date, four communities (Cranbrook, Kimberley, Invermere and Grand Forks) have followed the recommendations outlined in this report. They have passed and enforced “no-deer feeding” bylaws, created urban deer management committees, surveyed residents on their thoughts regarding urban deer and their management, and inventoried deer numbers within city limits.

The cities of Kimberley, Cranbrook, Invermere and Grand Forks conducted surveys of city residents on their thoughts regarding urban deer populations. The results of these surveys showed that approximately 75% of residents within Kimberley, Cranbrook, Invermere and Grand Forks wanted a 30% or greater reduction in the urban deer population. In addition, 84% percent of the respondents in Kimberley and Cranbrook and 77% of respondents in Invermere were concerned about deer aggression towards humans and dogs.

Of communities that count urban deer, Grand Forks (46 white-tailed deer/km<sup>2</sup>), Kimberley (20 mule deer /km<sup>2</sup> ) and Invermere (20 mule deer /km<sup>2</sup> ) have the highest density of deer within city limits (2010 data). In 2010, the actual number of deer counted within city limits was 200 mule deer in Kimberley, 200 mule deer in Invermere, 174 white-tailed deer in Grand Forks and 92 mule deer and white-tailed deer in Cranbrook.

## Background: Cranbrook

Members of Council, City staff and local MOE representatives Dave Dunbar and Irene Teske met in early 2010 to discuss the burgeoning urban mule deer population. At that time, MOE staff suggested the City undertake a series of steps, which would better help both City staff, Council and MOE understand the true nature of the problem and public sentiment, but also put together a solid management strategy to be endorsed by Council and then provided to the Province.

The first completed step was establishing a deer feeding bylaw, which took effect October 1, 2010. The bylaw is clear in identifying that intentionally leaving edible material out is a violation, but allowed for fruit, gardens and ornamental plants not be included. The bylaw also sets out an escalating fine schedule: \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second and \$500 for the third. Each day a violation occurs constitutes a new and separate offense.

City of Cranbrook Deer Feeding Prohibition Bylaw No. 3709, 2010

<https://cranbrook.civicweb.net/Documents/DocumentList.aspx?ID=1166>

Next the residents of the City of Cranbrook were asked for their thoughts on the issue of urban deer between August 31 and September 24, 2010 through an online survey. Residents were provided nearly 50 multiple choice questions that are included within the B.C. Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis Report, provided by MOE. About 1430 residents answered the survey; the results were provided to Council for information in early October 2010.

The Cranbrook Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee was created in August 2010 and conducted a deer population survey (November 2010), and the completed Urban Deer Management Strategy which was presented and endorsed by Cranbrook City Council February 21, 2011.

The highest number of deer counted in 2010 was 92 deer, of which 82 were mule deer and 10 were white-tailed deer. The total density of all deer counted in the City of Cranbrook is 3.7 deer/km<sup>2</sup> while the total density of mule deer is 3.3 deer/km<sup>2</sup>. The recommended density for urban deer in Helena, Montana is 9.6 deer/km<sup>2</sup>.

The City of Cranbrook conducted a survey of residents regarding urban deer in September 2010. Some results of survey are as follows:

- 83% were concerned about deer population in Cranbrook
- 84% were concerned about deer aggression in Cranbrook
- 75% wanted greater than 30% decrease in deer population in Cranbrook

The City of Cranbrook recognizes that deer are a natural part of its environment and despite the fact

that present mule deer numbers are considered low relative to other urban areas, information from the public and Conservation Officer Service (COS) suggests that human and deer interactions in Cranbrook are increasing. Aggressive deer complaints received from COS increased from 1 in 2007 to 60 in 2011. To date, all aggressive deer complaints have involved mule deer, mostly adult does.

Residents continue to express growing frustration with a range of deer issues from property damage to aggression towards both pets and humans. Several recommendations including a public education campaign and a deer cull were presented to and endorsed by Council. The Committee recommendations were based on the understanding that wildlife, including deer, fall under the authority of the provincial government as per the Wildlife Act; that all rules and regulations, both municipal and provincial must be abided by; and that the deer management strategy would focus on problem deer.

The primary objective of the Cranbrook urban deer cull was to focus trapping effort in areas with aggressive and dense populations of mule deer in an attempt to improve human safety and decrease deer related complaints. The Cranbrook urban deer cull is the first indigenous deer cull to occur in an urban setting in BC so was viewed as a “pilot” project.

## **Study area**

The trapping area occurred within the city limits of Cranbrook, B.C. which lies within the East Kootenay Regional District. The population of Cranbrook is 19,161, based on B.C. Stats Population Estimates for 2009. The community covers an area of approximately 2,522.3 hectares (6,610.5 acres), based on figures provided by the B.C. Ministry of Community and Rural Development.

## **Methods**

### ***Urban deer cull***

#### **Clover Trap construction**

Clover trap construction occurred during the summer and fall 2011. Clover traps were constructed as per design modifications developed by Helena’s urban deer program. Dimensions of each trap are 44”x84”x50”. M.R.D. Industries in Delton, Michigan built 10 steel metal clover trap frames. Netting for traps was purchased from Redden Marine Supply, Bellingham, Washington. Netting consisted of nylon panels with 1 <sup>5/8</sup> inch opening and 930 lb. twine tensile strength. Assembly of netting and metal frames was done in Helena, Montana. Assembled traps were picked up in Helena by Ministry staff and transported to Cranbrook, B.C. Cost per trap was approximately \$1200 US.

#### **Permitting**

The Provincial government issued the urban deer cull permit to the City of Cranbrook on November 8, 2011. The permit was to cull 25 deer as a “pilot” project. The permit allowed for both mule deer and white-tailed deer to be captured and culled, however the intent was to remove mostly mule deer;

white-tailed deer were included just in case they were captured and could not be released safely and uninjured. In addition, the provincial government supplied 10 modified clover traps, 2 bolt guns, and all other field related equipment. Two provincial ministry staff and 1 municipal staff were assigned to the project. Municipal governments hired and managed contractors and paid for meat processing into hamburger.

### **Training**

Training was held on Dec 2 and 3, 2011 at the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (later referred to as Ministry) office located on 205 Industrial Road G. Cranbrook. Training included a ½ day in-class discussion (Dec 2) and ½ day field instruction (Dec 3) and was provided by Dr. Helen Schwantje, Ministry Wildlife Veterinarian. Training consisted of humane killing techniques including use of Blitz bolt gun. Both contractors were in attendance. In addition, the Cranbrook contractors coordinated and paid for the Helena urban deer contractor to travel to Cranbrook and train them on field techniques utilizing traps.

### **Trapping locations**

On Dec 1 and 6<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry compiled and sent a list of 11 potential trap locations to the contractors. This list was derived through consultation with COS and consisted of locations within the “hot zones” of urban deer complaints. Other trapping locations were provided by City of Cranbrook and the contractors (**Table 2**). Traps were set up and pre-baited at initial locations during the last week of November. All landowners signed waivers allowing the trapping to occur.

### **Trapping methods (Permit conditions)**

Deer were trapped using modified clover traps. Clover trap design was modified by Helena’s urban deer program to improve efficiency and safety. Two contractors were required to move and set-up clover traps. Traps were pre-baited and baited using a mixture of oats/barley/corn/ molasses and apples. Clover traps were activated to capture deer in the evening usually between 7 and 9 pm. Traps were checked the next morning before 7:30 am. When a deer was captured within the trap, it was quickly dispatched using a Blitz bolt gun. The BLITZ Captive Bolt gun is the most powerful captive bolt gun available to the wildlife control industry. To utilize the meat, all deer dispatched needed to be promptly field dressed.

### **Education**

The Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee advised that a public education campaign be top priority in its list of recommendations to Council in February 2011. The Committee asked that a communications and education program be developed for the general public to identify problem deer numbers and provide information on how residents can deal with deer issues and their impact on their private yards. The education program is to clearly note that “deer are always going to be a part of life in Cranbrook”; provide information on the mule deer life cycle and interaction with the urban public and provides details on hazing, repellents, fencing and other deterrents.

As a result a three page public information brochure (**Appendix A**) was generated and distributed by City of Cranbrook staff. The brochure has been available to the public since its completion and release around March 31, 2011 and is available to the public at City Hall and for download on the City of Cranbrook website. Portions of the information in the brochure are provided as space permits in a regular City informational advertisement which appears in two area newspapers on a weekly basis.

## **Results and Discussion**

### ***Urban deer cull***

Live trapping using 10 modified clover traps began on Dec 2, 2011. Trapping occurred on December 3, 5 – 7 and 13 – 17 (total of 9 days). A total of 25 deer were trapped and euthanized of which 11 (44%) were white-tailed deer and 14 (56%) mule deer (**Table 1**). All deer were quickly and humanely dispatched. Fortunately, there were no capture related injuries to contractors or deer. No deer were released even though it was recommended to attempt to release white-tailed deer if safe to do so. According to aggressive deer complaint data obtained by the City and COS, only mule deer were documented as being aggressive.

The capture results were monitored and on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, when it was apparent that a high proportion of non-target white-tailed deer were being culled, the Ministry and the City requested the cessation of trapping operations and the relocation of traps to other areas that contained higher mule deer densities. In addition, it was reaffirmed that the original intent was the release of white-tailed deer when it was safe and ethical (i.e. the deer were not injured) to do so. Trapping operations were suspended from December 7 until December 12, 2011 when a meeting involving the contractors and representatives from the City of Cranbrook and the Ministry was held. The parties agreed that the traps set outside of priority areas would be moved into areas with denser populations of mule deer (list provided earlier). Trapping operations recommenced and continued until December 17, 2011 when the 25<sup>th</sup> and final deer allowed under the permit was captured and culled.

According to **Table 2**, traps were located at 9 different trapping sites of which 5 were within high priority areas. High priority areas were neighbourhoods known to have high density and aggressive mule deer. A total of 90 trap nights occurred of which 61% were in high priority areas. After the December 12 meeting, some traps were moved and increased trapping success for mule deer from 7/15 (47%) prior to December 12th to 7/10 (70%) after. Overall trapping success was 28% (deer/trap nights) with 25 deer trapped during 90 trap nights (10 traps x 9 days). Trapping success for mule deer does was 5%.

All permit conditions were met regarding animal handling. Meat was processed by a government approved local butcher as hamburger and distributed to the Cranbrook Food Bank and local First Nations. Approximately 1140 lbs. of deer meat was distributed. The meat of 20 animals was distributed to the Cranbrook Food Bank, and the remaining 5 animals were distributed to First Nations.

**Table 1: Cranbrook trapping results (from Ron Kerr)**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Adult Females</b>	<b>Fawns</b>	<b>Adult Males</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Mule deer			7	7 (24%)
Mule deer	5			5 (20%)
Mule deer		2 (one male, one female)		2 (8%)
<b>Mule deer Subtotal</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14 (56%)</b>
White-tailed deer	5			5 (20%)
White-tailed deer			1	1 (4%)
White-tailed deer		5 (2 male, three female)		5 (20%)
<b>White-tailed deer Subtotal</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11 (44%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>25</b>



**Table 2: Clover trap results (from Ron Kerr)**

<u>Trap site</u>	<u># Deer taken</u>	<u>Landowner contacted</u>	<u>Trap Placed</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Priority area*</u>	<u>Trap nights</u>
1	2 W	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/13 - Out 12/17 (5 days) Trapped damaged, possibly dogs which were seen in area - 12/16	Yes	5
2		No	No	Problem area –COS data	Yes	
3		No	No	Problem area –COS data	Yes	
4		No	No	Location provided by City	Yes	
5		Yes	Yes	Trap in (2) 12/12 – 12/17 (5 days) One trap out 12/13	Yes	1x5
6	2 W	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/02 Out 12/12 (4 Days)	No	4
7	2 M	Yes	Yes	Trap in (2) 12/02 – Out 12/17 (9 days)	No	2x 9
8	2 W	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/02 –Out 12/12 (4 days)	No	4
9	2 W 1M	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/02 – Out 12/17 (9 Days)	Yes	9
10		No	No	Location provided by City		
11		No	No	Problem area –COS data	Yes	
12	5 -3W, 2M	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/02 – Out 12/17 (9 Days)	Yes	9
13		No	No	Problem area –COS data	Yes	
14	1 M	Yes	Yes	Trap in 12/02 – Out 12/17 (9 Days)	No	9
15		No	No			
16		No	No	Location provided by City	Yes	
17		No	No	Problem area –COS data		
18		No	No			
19		No	No			
20	8 M	Yes	Yes	Traps (3) in 12/02 - Out 12/17 ( 9 days)	Yes	3x9
21		No	No	Location provided by City		
22		No	No	Problem area –COS data		
23		No	No	Problem area –COS data		
24		No	No	Location provided by City		
<b>Total</b>						<b>90</b>

**Note: No trapping Dec 4, 8-12**

\*Priority areas were defined as residential areas with high complaint volume (all involving mule deer)

The provincial government spent approximately \$16,200 on trapping related equipment which was loaned to the municipality to use. This equipment will be available for any community that requires it. The City of Cranbrook has spent \$12,900.00 on contractors, mileage, bait and meat processing.

## **Education**

Each and every step conducted by the Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee and the City of Cranbrook is documented and available for public review from the City's website – [www.cranbrook.ca](http://www.cranbrook.ca) under 'Urban Deer'.

The 'Living with Urban Deer' information section of the website includes a copy of the public informational brochure, all reports and background documentation generated by the Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee presented to and endorsed by Mayor and Council. The section also includes copies of informational and educational documents on mule, black-tail and white-tail deer produced by various provincial ministries, including the Ministry of Environment. Since this section's public launch on April 1, 2011, over 1100 individuals have reviewed the page content.

The 'Living with Urban Deer' information brochure (**Appendix A**) has been downloaded 216 times, as of January 15, 2012 and approximately twice as many paper copies of the brochure have been distributed to the public. The availability of the informational brochure continues to be published semi-regularly in the City of Cranbrook's corporate advertising campaign.

Looking ahead to 2012, City staff will step up the educational component of the Urban Deer Committee's by generating articles and informational media releases ahead of the spring fawning season and the fall rut, along with a regular campaign as part of the City regular advertising to discuss yard and garden issues, deer-resistant planting and deer/human conflict issues and public safety.

## **Conclusions**

The trapping crew was successful in safely capturing 25 deer. Thankfully, no injuries were incurred by the trapping crew. Fortunately, no deer were injured while in the trap. Deer were competently dispatched within seconds of attending the trap site (it takes approximately 10 seconds to collapse trap on top of deer and use bolt gun). Both contractors are experienced hunters and are skilled at handling wildlife. In addition, the contractors were very sensitive to public and landowner perceptions. There were no complaints from landowners with traps, however, there were some complaints from residents of Cranbrook regarding the deer cull in general.

The training that was provided on the use of bolt gun and traps was deemed adequate. It was very important that the Ministry veterinarian train contractors on the safe and effective use of the bolt gun. Helena's urban deer coordinator provided extremely valuable training and advice to the Cranbrook trapping crew.

It was very difficult to trap only mule deer as white-tailed deer also exist in many parts of the city. Any future urban deer culls would require changing the objectives from specifically removing problem deer (mule deer) to a general population reduction of both species.

The use of clover traps and bolt gun to conduct an urban deer cull is labour intensive. To trap and dispatch 25 deer using 10 traps required 9 days with 2 contractors and cost approximately \$13,000 (not including trap construction). However, this is the safest method to use within residential areas to reduce populations of deer.

## **Recommendations**

### ***City Recommendations on Wildlife Issue Management for Municipalities***

The City of Cranbrook makes several key recommendations to other municipalities working to deal with their own urban wildlife issues, regardless of species or scope of your wildlife issue.

- Involve Ministry staff in your respective wildlife management process immediately; utilize their professional experience and expertise in each step.
- Conduct a public survey. Survey results of your residents give elected officials a very clear indication that the process is moving in the right direction. It is also important in garnering elected officials and residents support for management recommendations.
- Have a diverse and transparent Committee. Having a representative of MOE on the Committee takes much of the emotion out of the process and allows for factual, information based decisions. Having the Committee remain in place to continue to monitor the situation and provide annual reporting back to Council does a lot for the credibility of the process and for Council in eyes of the public.
- Make important decisions in a public forum, such as a City Council meeting. It keeps the process in the public eye and keeps the media and your residents aware.

The Cranbrook Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee reflected a solid cross-section of the community, with various viewpoints and interests. Despite these differences, the committee stayed together and arrived at solutions that were supported unanimously by the Committee. The Committee collectively presented realistic expectations and identified that Cranbrook's issue required long term management, not short term fixes. The Committee also recognized that deer will always occupy Cranbrook and with reduced deer numbers hopefully allow for less conflict. In the end, the Committee generated a series of recommendations that can be applied.

### ***Deer cull Recommendations***

- Clearly document the deer management objectives within urban deer cull permits issued by the Ministry to ensure permit activities are consistent with project plan;
- Request a summary report be provided by contractors outlining results of trapping process;

- Maintain regular communication with trapping contractors (at least 2x per week) to monitor trapping success and to resolve any problems that may result;
- Maintain regular communication between municipal and provincial representatives and contractors to ensure achievement of goals;
- Monitor trapping results and advise contractors to move traps regularly, if not successfully capturing deer; the process of moving traps is difficult as traps are heavy and become frozen into soil. Contractors may require additional assistance to move traps during the trapping process.
- Modify the City of Cranbrook's objectives from specifically removing problem deer (mule deer) to a general population reduction of both deer species as both species inhabit much of the city and it is very difficult to target only one species.

## Appendix A: Living with wildlife brochure (Back)

**DEER & YOU**

Deer are wild animals and as such can be dangerous. Do not approach deer or their fawns. Does (female deer) can be aggressive during the fawning season from May through June of each year. Likewise, mule deer bucks can be aggressive during the rut (breeding season) from November through December.

If your presence in an area where deer are creates a response, like a change in stance, ear position or physical movement - you are too close. Give the deer plenty of space (15 to 20 metres) to either move or exit the area. Do not walk closer to the deer, choose another route.

And be sure to walk your dog on a leash and be ready to let go of the leash if a deer attacks.


**DEER & YOUR YARD**

There are a few techniques that can be used to protect your property from deer damage. With a combination of landscaping with deer resistant plants, fencing, frightening and hazing techniques and deer repellents you can protect your yard and property from deer damage. However, fencing is the only guaranteed method to preventing damage from deer in your yard.

Talk with your landscape professional or visit your favourite local nursery to find out more about deer-resistant plants that thrive in your area.

**A MULE DEER DIET**

The Mule Deer's key winter foods include shrubs like big sagebrush, pasture sage, bitterbrush, rabbitbrush, snowbrush, saskatoon, rose, and serviceberry, as well as the foliage of Douglas-fir trees and a variety of grasses and herbs. In spring and summer, Mule Deer prefer various grasses, along with herbs like balsamroot, clover, wild strawberry, fireweed, and the leaves of many kinds of shrubs.



*Photo: Tara Sckorupa*

**Additional Information**

Ministry of Environment Conservation Officer Service – Ungulate Conflicts  
[www.elp.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife\\_human\\_interaction/docs/ungulates.html](http://www.elp.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife_human_interaction/docs/ungulates.html)


Ministry of Environment Conservation Officer Service – Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis  
[www.elp.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife\\_human\\_interaction/UrbanUngulates.html](http://www.elp.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife_human_interaction/UrbanUngulates.html)

Deer Impacts BlogSpot  
<http://deerimpacts.blogspot.com/search/label/municipal%20deer>

**Conservation Officer Service**

Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP)  
 Dial Toll Free 1-877-952-7277 (RAPP)  
*to report wildlife-human interactions where public safety is at risk.*

**LIVING WITH URBAN DEER**



*Photo: John Spencer*

**RESIDENT INFORMATION BROCHURE**

**CRANBROOK**  
 MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY  
[www.cranbrook.ca](http://www.cranbrook.ca)

## Appendix A: Living with wildlife brochure (Inside)

### OVERVIEW

Since October 2010, the City of Cranbrook through the Urban Deer Management Advisory Committee has been working on a plan to manage the Urban Deer issue. An urban deer resident survey was completed, a count of the urban deer population was undertaken and an Urban Deer Management Strategy was presented and endorsed by City Council in early 2011.

To read the Urban Deer Management Strategy visit our website – [www.cranbrook.ca](http://www.cranbrook.ca).

The City of Cranbrook recognizes that deer are a natural part of our environment and despite the fact that present mule deer numbers are considered low relative to other urban areas, anecdotal information from the public suggests that human and deer interactions in Cranbrook are increasing.

Residents continue to express growing frustration with a range of deer issues from property damage to aggression towards both pets and humans. A public education program including this brochure is one of several recommendations endorsed by City Council to help ensure public safety by reducing the potential of dangerous encounters with urban deer.

Inside you will find information about the lifecycle of mule deer, the City of Cranbrook Deer Feeding Prohibition bylaw, the diet of mule deer, information about protecting yourself and your property and a list of other great sources of material about living with deer.

### LIFECYCLE OF MULE DEER

*(Excerpt from Mule & Black-Tailed Deer in BC)*  
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wild/documents/muledeer.pdf>

In the weeks leading up to the late-autumn mating (rutting) period, bucks increase their displays of dominance and indirect threats. A dominant buck typically circles a rival with deliberate steps, back arching, head low, and tail flicking. Bucks also display dominance by violently thrashing the bushes with their antlers.

During the rutting season in November and early December, mature bucks of equal size engage in serious head-to-head fights. Bucks are capable of breeding as yearlings, but older, dominant bucks do most of the mating. Most does breed as yearlings and drop their first fawn on or about their second birthday.

After a gestation period of six to seven months, fawns are born from late-May through June. At this time, the does drive away their offspring of the previous year and seek a secluded place to give birth. The white-spotted fawn relies on its colouration, lack of scent, and silence for protection. Does leave fawns hidden while they forage in the vicinity, returning occasionally to nurse them.

Twin fawns are most common, though young does often have only one, and triplets occur once in a while. At birth, fawns weigh 2.7 to 4 kg. Typically, does produce offspring throughout life, and more than 90 percent of them give birth every year. This is a prolific species which can double its population in a few years under favourable conditions. Normally, 45 to 70 percent of the fawns die, and few Mule deer live more than eight to ten years. Predation, starvation, and hunting are the main causes of death.

The Urban Deer Committee will continue to conduct deer counts, conduct resident surveys and monitor and report on numbers & species of deer, predator sightings, complaints, incidents of deer conflict and bylaw infractions. To report any of these things please email us at [urbandeer@cranbrook.ca](mailto:urbandeer@cranbrook.ca) or call Cranbrook City Hall at 250-426-4211.

### FEEDING DEER

The intentional feeding of deer in the City of Cranbrook contravenes the City's [Deer Feeding Prohibition Bylaw 3709, 2010](#) approved by City Council on September 13, 2010 and took effect October 1, 2010.

The bylaw clearly states no one is to provide deer with food by intentionally leaving food, food waste or other attractive edible material intended for the sole purpose of feeding deer.

For example, leaving out a bale of hay, a bag of apples or other compostable food scraps on a residential lot or property where these items are not consistently being grown or produced for human consumption would be seen as an infraction to the bylaw.



Photo: Irene Teske

Farm operations, home fruit and vegetable gardens intended for human consumption or ornamental plants and flowers are not included as material intended for the sole purpose of feeding deer under the bylaw.

Violating the Bylaw will be committing an offence and can be fined on an escalating fine schedule; \$100 for the first offence, \$200 for the second, \$500 for the third. Each day a violation occurs constitutes a new and separate offence.