



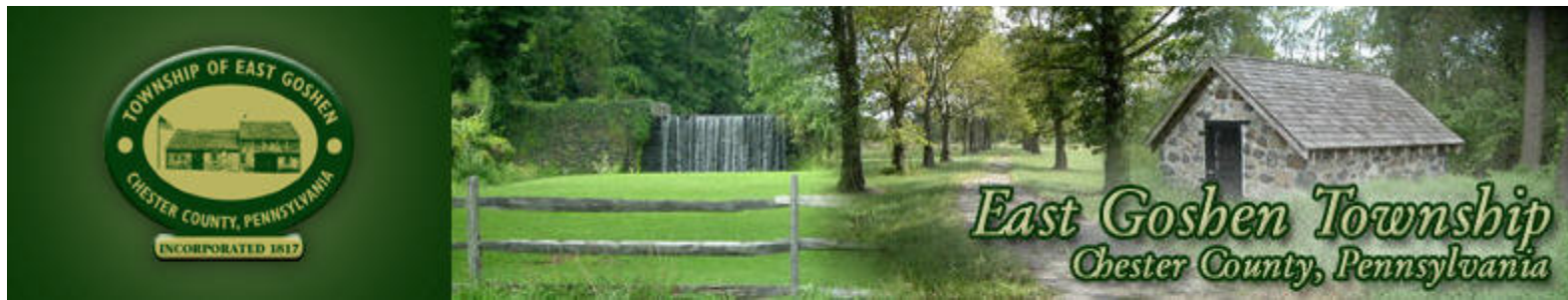
East Goshen Township Deer Management Program

Collaboration with
Willistown Conservation Trust



History

- 1995 – Deer count using overhead thermographic imaging counts 157 deer in township.
- 2005 – Township conducts “pilot” deer hunt involving 15 hunters at residents’ request. 12 Deer harvested.
- 2006 – Board of Supervisors decides to terminate deer hunting program due to residents’ concerns and unanswered questions.
- 2007 – Deer Management Committee formed to determine if township has a deer problem, define the problem, and make recommendations to address it.
- 2008 – Program enters its “action” phase.

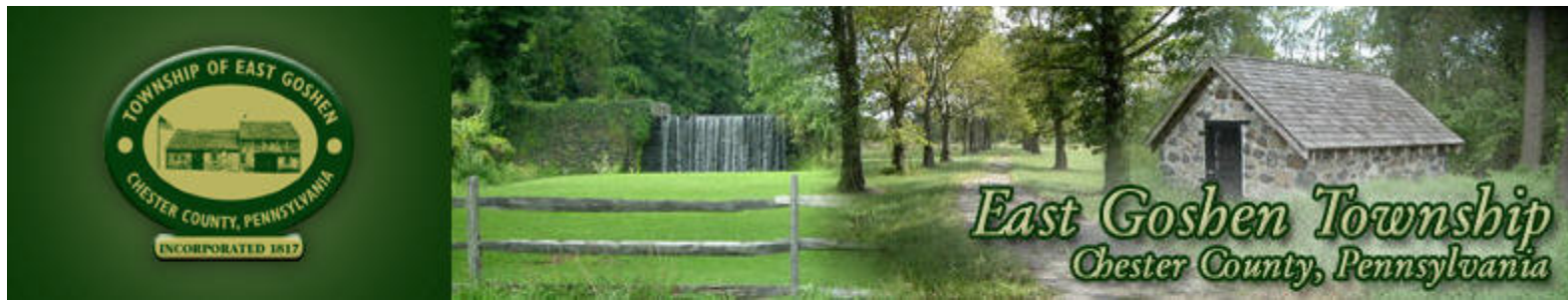


Deer Management Committee Findings

East Goshen does have a deer problem. A thermographic overhead deer count finds ~300 deer in the township March 25, 2007.

The high density of deer (30 per square mile) leads to an unacceptable risk of:

- Lyme Disease
- Traffic Accidents
- Loss of understory in woodlands
- Loss of expensive private plantings



Recommendations

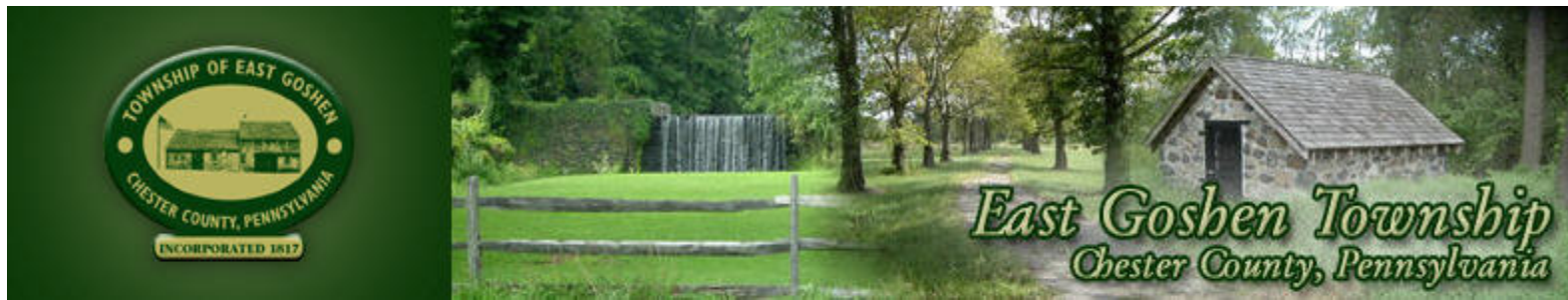
1. Educate residents about deer in the community.
2. Initiate a bow hunting program executed by deer management groups to reduce deer herd density.
3. Develop a tick program to reduce risk of Lyme disease.
4. Study deer-vehicle accident patterns and determine if mitigations are feasible.



Education

Use the township's web site, email, newsletter, events, and the media to inform residents about:

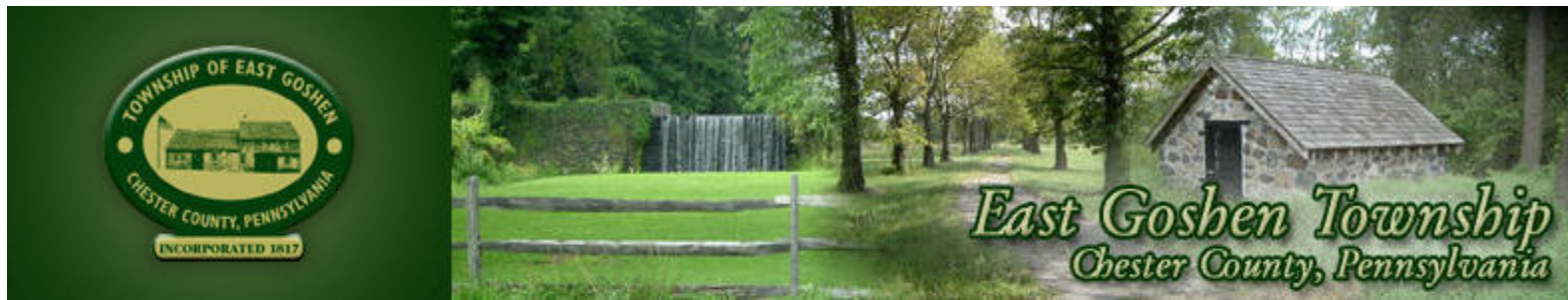
- Safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of deer management groups and archery.
- Role of deer and mice in the spread of Lyme disease and what residents can do to reduce their risk of catching the disease.
- Deer resistant plantings that will reduce residents' landscape costs.
- Rationale for residents to stop feeding the deer.
- Information regarding avoidance of deer accidents.



Deer Management Through Archery (Pending)

Reduce deer herd density to 1995 level in 10 years by:

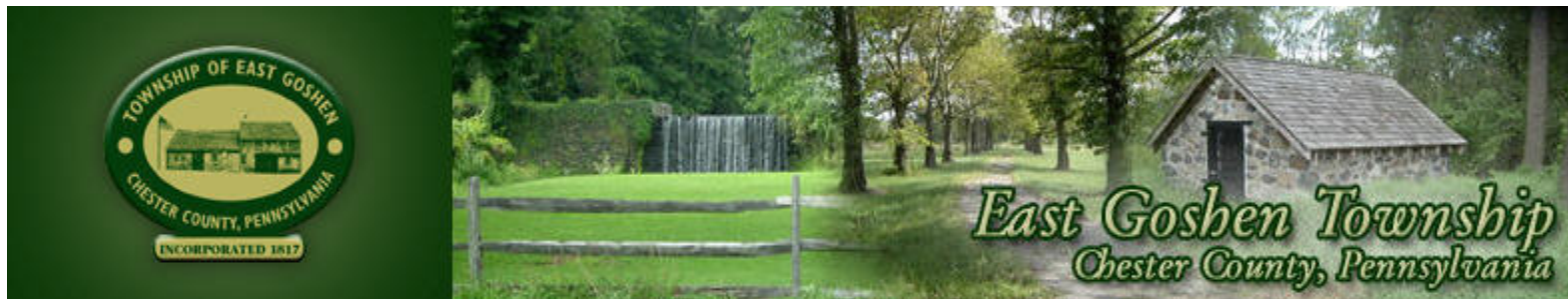
- Engaging deer management groups at no cost to manage the following properties:
- Bow Tree/Clocktower: 55 acres
- Grand Oak/Mill Creek: 17 acres
- Supplee Valley East: 17 acres
- Supplee Valley West: 26 acres
- Wentworth: 20 acres
- Ashbridge: 55 acres (Willistown Conservation Trust)
- Harvesting ~36 deer/year in new open space hunting.
- Expand to interested private landowners after establishing open space program.



Tick Program

Reduce the tick population by making the following tools available to residents:

- 4-Post Feeder Bait Stations
- Reduce ticks on deer by over 90% for deer typically within 900 feet of each station.
- 10 Stations ready for open spaces. Township provides all equipment, supplies, and maintenance.
- Tick Tubes
- Reduce ticks on mice by ~100% for mice within 5 yards of tubes. Small landowner protection.
- Provide residents with opportunity to buy tubes at low cost, 25% or more off retail prices.

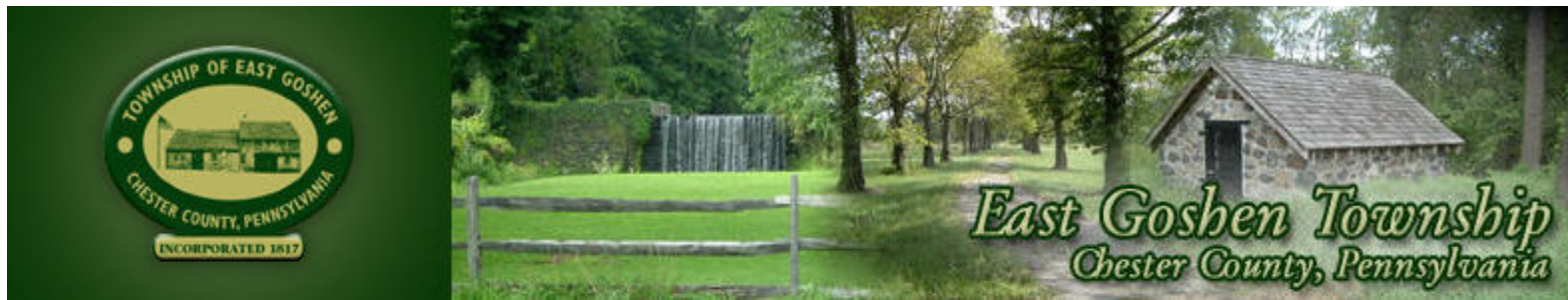


Traffic Accidents

Historical annual average deer pick-ups in 2001 – 2004 was 50 – 70. 68 Deer were picked-ups in the township from July 2007 through February 2008.

Mitigate by:

- Plotting locations of police accident reports and deer pick-ups to understand “hot spots”.
- Improving visibility in hot spot areas.
- Modifying landscape to deter deer from entering road.
- Investigating “deer detection” systems along roads.
- Pursuing grant opportunities to ease adoption of mitigations.



Some Collaboration Opportunities

- Deer management and tick program in Ashbridge open space and any other locations in East Goshen.
- Organizational knowledge and resource sharing:
- Educational materials and initiatives
- Deer management
- Tick program
- Traffic accidents
- Deer resistant species promotion
- Joint ventures to expand the reach of our common program initiatives in the region.