



Upper Dublin Township Police Department

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MEMORANDUM

To:	Francis Wheatley, Chief of Police	Date:	3/19/2026
From:	Christopher D Haggar, Patrol Officer	Case:	N/A
Subject:	Analysis of the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program for 2025-2026	Page:	1
Approved:	Sgt. Stephen Nick	Total Pages:	8

As the coordinator of the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program, I have completed an analysis of the 2025-2026 deer hunting season.

Goal

The goal of the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program is to limit the number of deer/human conflicts in Upper Dublin Township.

Parks and Recreation Partnership

Upper Dublin Police and Upper Dublin Township Parks and Recreation partnered up again for this past season. UDT P&R took on numerous responsibilities that helped ease the workload of the Police Department and this partnership will definitely be a benefit for the program for seasons to come. UDPD sends a huge thank you to Tammy Echevarria for all of the help.

Deer Hunting Season

Hunting in Pennsylvania is governed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC). The PGC has established Wildlife Management Units (WMU) throughout Pennsylvania. Upper Dublin Township is located within WMU-5D. As a result of being located within WMU-5D, the following dates for deer hunting were established by the PGC for the 2025-2026 deer hunting season:

- Sept. 20-Nov. 15
- Nov. 17-22
- Nov. 24-28
- Nov. 29th
- Dec. 1-13
- Dec. 26-Jan. 24th, 2026

Sunday hunting was approved by the PA Game Commission from September 14th-December 7th, 2025 and allowed in the township without issue.

Hunter Education Course

Prior to participating in the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program, each hunter had to successfully complete an Upper Dublin Township sponsored Participant Safety Course. Courses were held on:

- **Sunday August 17th, 2025**
- **Sunday September 14th, 2025**
- **Monday September 15th, 2025**

The course covered the rules and regulations of the PGC and those instituted by the Upper Dublin Township Board of Commissioners. The proper use of archery and tree stand equipment was also covered. Written and practical tests were also administered, and all participants passed.

Participants

During the 2025-2026 deer hunting season there were 50 participants, most of who actively participated. Many are Upper Dublin Township residents, employees, or volunteer firefighters. I maintained contact with all of the participants via telephone or email.

Authorized Upper Dublin Township Properties

Upper Dublin Township owns and is responsible for maintaining approximately 610 acres of open space. Historically, the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program has successfully harvested deer on carefully selected and authorized portions of these Upper Dublin Township properties. There were twelve properties on which hunting was permitted during the 2025-2026 Deer Hunting Season.

Table 1.

Approved Properties	Acreage
Aidenn Lair Woods	7.2
Camphill & Highland Athletic Complex (Vicinity of Public Works Facility)	17.0
Dublin Hunt Open Space	77.6
Dillon Road Woodlands	10.9
Henry Lee Willet Park	13.0
Mondauk Manor	23.9

Loch Alsh Reservoir (Rear of Property)	3.1
Pine Run Park	22.5
Robbins Park (Middle to Rear of Property)	14.1
Rose Valley Preserve	27.4
Sandy Run Park	21.9
Upper Dublin (Twining Valley) Golf Course (Rear of Property)	7.0
Total	245.6

Tracking Deer Harvested on Private Property

Over the years of participating in this program, I learned many of the Deer Management Program participants also have access to private property within the township. I requested participants with this access report their harvests so they may be included in this report. This again was a successful addition to the hunting program.

Community Notification

Each of the Upper Dublin Township properties approved for hunting were posted with signs that alerted individuals of the hunting permitted on the properties as well as the times in which hunting take place. The signs were posted by the Upper Dublin Township Parks and Recreation Department at least two weeks prior to the start of the 2025-2026 deer hunting season. These signs remained in place for the duration of the Deer Hunting Season and were removed during the week of January 30th, 2026.

These signs were placed at what are considered, by both the Upper Dublin Township Parks and Recreation Department and the Upper Dublin Township Police Department, as primary entry/exit points to each property. Additional public notification of the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program was provided via the Upper Dublin Township website.

Community Support

I have received numerous requests for more information and requests to join the program. They were added to the wait list. I received several phone calls and correspondence from residents requesting information on reducing the deer population and expressing support for the program.

I hope to continue building positive relationships with the citizens of Upper Dublin Township to ensure this program continues to be successful. Support from the commissioners and the community is imperative for the success of the hunting program.

Participant Hunting Reports

With the assistance of Upper Dublin Township Parks and Recreation, we continued using an online based tracking system, called Ragic! Participants utilized their smart phones to sign in, sign out, and reported their harvests via the Ragic! App. This was a huge success, making tracking stats and hunting much more convenient for the participants and program administrators for the season.

Table 2.

General Statistics	
Participants	50
“Active” Participants	42
Deer Harvested	50
Hunting Trips	764
Time Spent Hunting	2,354 Hours

Table 3.

Properties Frequented By Participants (# of Trips)	
Aidenn Lair Woods	64
Camphill & Highland Athletic Complex	36
Dublin Hunt Open Space	186
Dillon Road Woodlands	48
Henry Lee Willet Park	13
Loch Alsh Reservoir	23
Mondauk Manor (Dog Park)	75
Pine Run Park	48
Robbins Park	19
Rose Valley Preserve	62
Sandy Run Park	69
Twining Valley Park	56
Private Property	65
Total	764

Table 4.

Deer Harvested	
Sex	Harvest
Female (Doe)	30
Male (Buck)	20
Total	50

Table 5.

Locations of Harvests	
Property	Number of Deer Harvested
Aidenn Lair Woods	0
Camphill & Highland Athletic Complex	4
Dillon Road Woodlands	4
Dublin Hunt Open Space	6
Henry Lee Willet Park	0
Loch Alsh Reservoir	2
Mondauk Manor	6
Pine Run Park	3
Robbins Park	5
Rose Valley Preserve	2
Sandy Run Park	5
Twining Valley Park	4
UDT Private Land	9
Total	50

*Active participants must hunt a minimum of 15 hours or harvest a deer

Recommendations

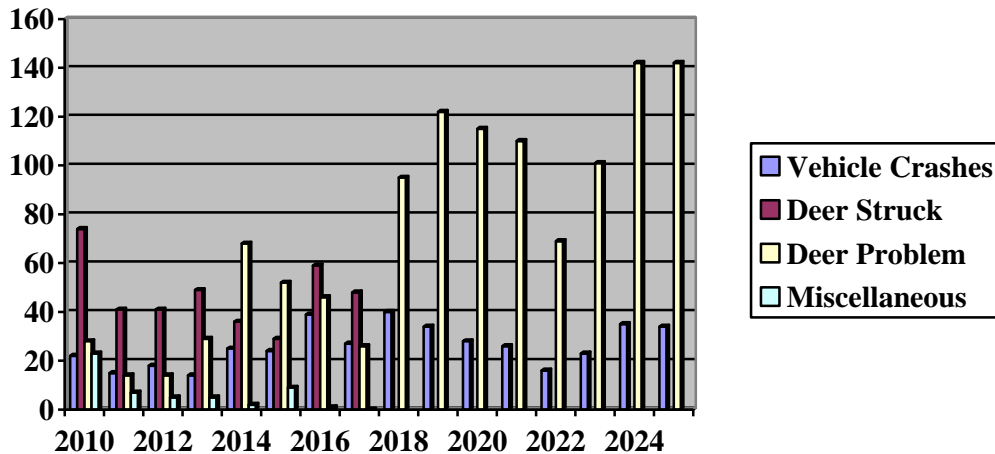
It will be important for UDPD and UDT P&R to seek out and obtain additional hunting locations. We will be working during the off season to identify and obtain permission, if needed, to add properties for the 2025-2026 season.

Police Department Calls for Service– Deer Related

Since 2005, the Upper Dublin Township Police Department has responded to over 2,000 deer related Calls for Service. On average an Upper Dublin Police Officer spends approximately 30 minutes on each deer related Call for Service. These typically involve dead or injured deer, and vehicle vs. deer crashes in which vehicles are damaged, and in some cases, the occupants are injured.

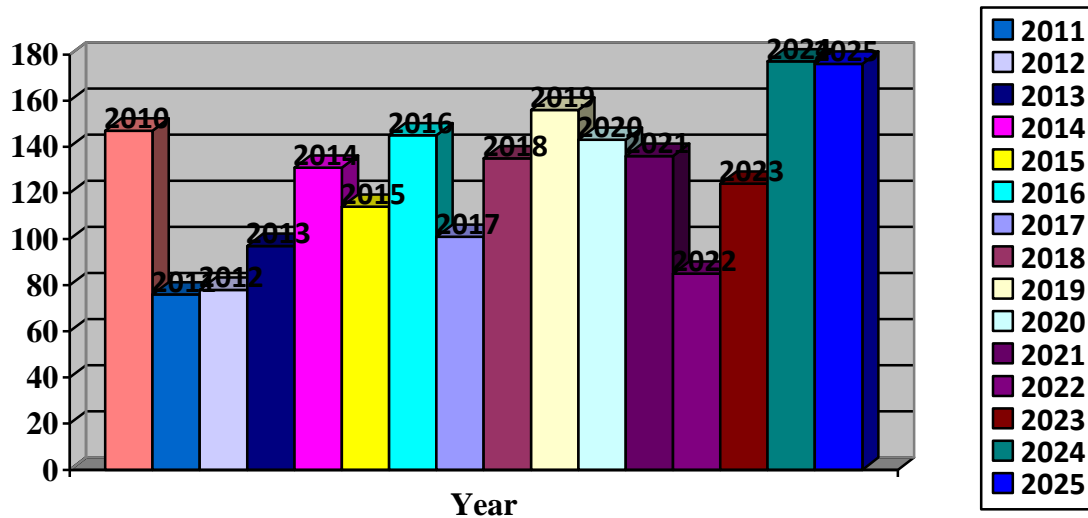
- 2025
 - Vehicle Crashes: 34
 - Deer Problem (Including injured deer, deceased deer, complaints of deer): 142
 - Total: Calls for Service (Deer-Related): 176
- *Many calls are repeat calls for the same deceased deer

Table 6. Deer Related Calls for Service by Type from 2010-2025



* Deer struck, deer problem, miscellaneous, are reported under one category

Table 7. Deer Related Calls for Service by Total from 2010-2025



Program Issues

There were several incidents of note this season.

A complaint was received of a resident chasing deer around a parking lot adjacent to a hunting location. They told the complainant they were keeping the deer from going into the woods so they would not get shot. The PA Game Commission was notified and the person was warned against those actions by the game warden.

UDPD received a report of a person hunting on UDT property without permission. An unauthorized tree stand was located in a UDT owned property and UDPD left a business card for them to contact us, which they never did. Several weeks later the same subject was spotted climbing a UDT Deer Management participant’s tree stand. The participant contacted UDPD and ultimately the subject was identified by police. Based off of the interaction, in which the subject and their father were confrontational, UDPD contacted the PA Game Commission. Pennsylvania game law violation charges were filed by the PA Game Warden. The defendant ultimately plead guilty to the charges of Trespassing, Hunting without Proper License, and three counts of illegal possession of game.

A participant reported their hunting equipment was tampered with and some equipment was stolen. A police report was completed and the case was closed due to lack of leads.

Future Considerations

I, along with Lieutenant Darren Nyce, Officer Kevin Spotts, Officer Damion Smith and UDT P&R will continue to review and evaluate the operational and safety procedures currently in place within the Upper Dublin Township Deer Management Program.

I look forward to continuing to build the working relationship with the Township's Board of Commissioners and other staff members to ensure the continued success of this program.

Conclusion

The 2025-2026 Deer Management Program was a successful one. It continues to be a huge help to partner with the Parks and Recreation Department. Working with each other going forward will help with the continued success of the program.

Since taking over the Deer Management Program, the safety for the hunters, citizens, and visitors has been my number one priority. Any issues that arise, we immediately address. It should also be noted the Deer Management Program has little to no cost to Upper Dublin Township.

I am also a supporter of transparency; therefore, all information relevant to the Deer Management Program is posted on the township webpage and is available on the game commission website.

I have been contacted and met with several other communities regarding starting deer management programs in their towns. UDT has received compliments on the success of our program and they are modeling their programs off of Upper Dublin Townships. This shows that our program has a positive reputation and is seen in a positive light in our area. I credit this to the participant's hard work, professional demeanors, and commitment to safe and ethical hunting. I wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to them and the support of Upper Dublin Township.

Respectfully submitted,

Officer Christopher D. Haggart #98