

“So, vasectomies it is. Yes, snicker if you will, I get it. But the good news is that a deer management plan is underway. We will know in relatively short order if this approach has a chance to work. In the meantime, you drivers please be careful as the risk deer pose to motorists still very much exists.”

-BP ODDO

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S
DIRECT CONNECT SUNDAY**

AT THE PETRIDES SCHOOL



HEALTH & WELLNESS QUALITY OF LIFE DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION **SAFETY** JOBS RECREATION EDUCATION TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

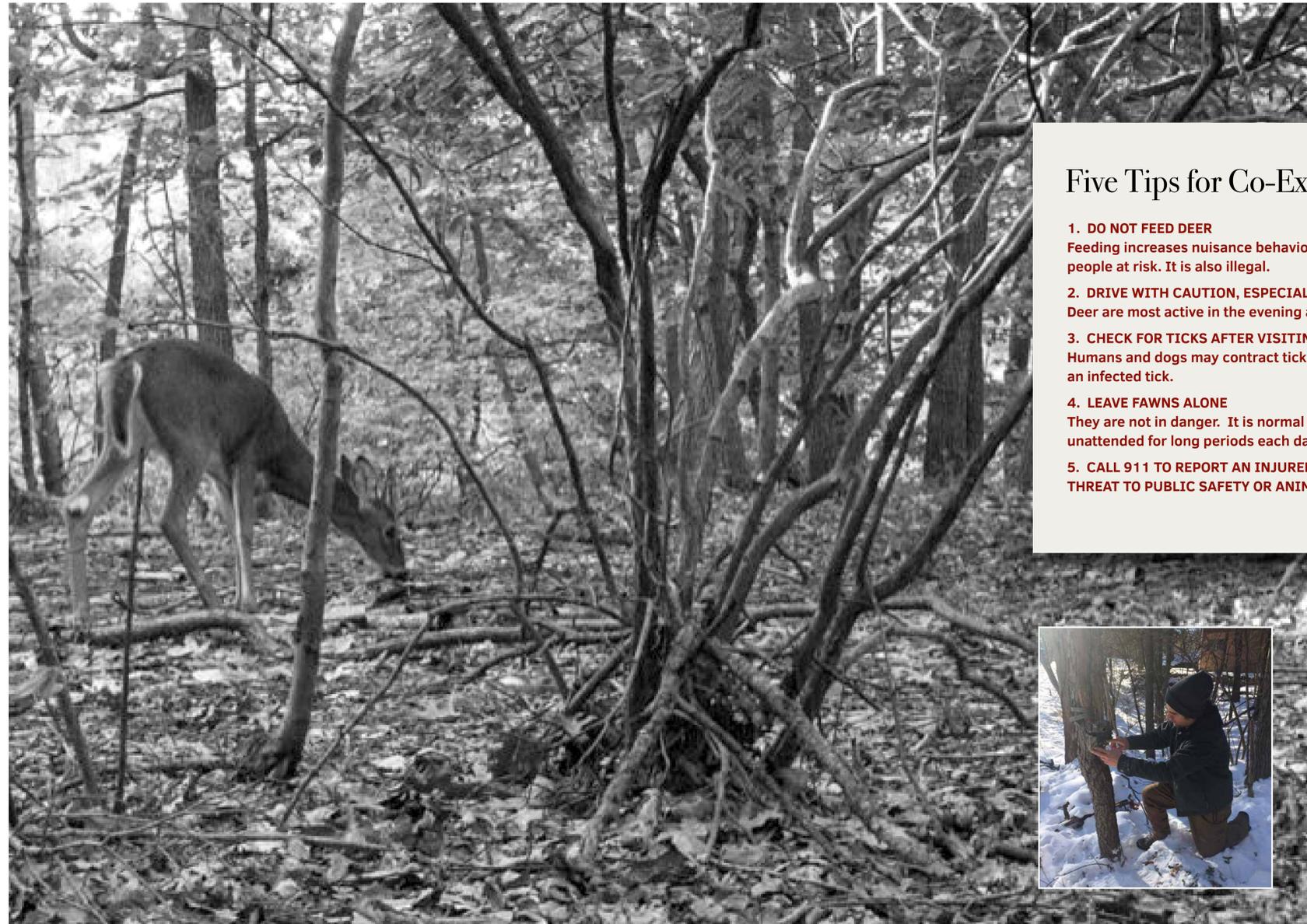
From his first day at Borough Hall, Borough President Oddo has been sounding the alarm about the rapidly growing deer population, which continues to have a negative effect on our eco-system, increase rates of Lyme Disease, and create new dangers on our roads.

After bringing together representatives from city, state, and federal governments to request action, two years ago, the City instituted its Deer Management Program, now in its second year of a three year study.

One of the only programs of its kind in the nation, the deer management program focuses on sterilizing male deer to control breeding and bring the total population down. The program is implemented by White Buffalo, nationally-known specialists in wildlife management. Utilizing field biologists and a rotating team of veterinarians, they follow strict protocols to dart, tranquilize, and perform vasectomies on the males.

These bucks are then tagged with a white tag on one ear and for some, a brown GPS tag on the other. This multi-agency effort includes the Department of Parks, NYPD, DEP, and DSNY. The program is designed to roughly coincide with the deer mating cycle, known as the “rut.”

The goal of the study is to determine whether sterilization will keep the deer population at manageable levels, thereby protecting motorists from dangerous collisions, minimizing the incidence of Lyme disease, and safeguarding our forests from overgrazing.



Five Tips for Co-Existing with Deer

- 1. DO NOT FEED DEER**
Feeding increases nuisance behavior, putting both deer and people at risk. It is also illegal.
- 2. DRIVE WITH CAUTION, ESPECIALLY AT DAWN AND DUSK**
Deer are most active in the evening and early morning.
- 3. CHECK FOR TICKS AFTER VISITING A PARK OR GREEN SPACE**
Humans and dogs may contract tick-borne diseases if bitten by an infected tick.
- 4. LEAVE FAWNS ALONE**
They are not in danger. It is normal for does to leave fawns unattended for long periods each day.
- 5. CALL 911 TO REPORT AN INJURED DEER OR AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY OR ANIMAL WELFARE**



At Clay Pit Pond State Park, researchers are analyzing the devastating effect of deer over-grazing on ground cover plants, young trees, and native wildflowers and shrubs. (Photo courtesy of Staten Island Advance)



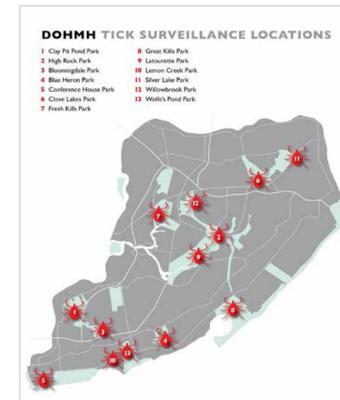
The Parks Wildlife Unit visits schools to increase deer awareness among children.



Ear tags allow biologists to recognize previously-captured deer and keep a record of their numbers and location. (Photo courtesy of Staten Island Advance)

Oh Deer!

DEER MANAGEMENT AND AWARENESS



Studies have shown Lyme disease to be more prevalent in areas with large concentrations of deer.