



## AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 6, 2018

Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Wildlife and Heritage Service  
580 Taylor Avenue, E-1  
Annapolis Maryland 21401

Dear Maryland, DNR: Proposed Hunting Regulations 2018-2019

On behalf of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC, please accept this letter as our comments regarding the proposed hunting regulations for the State of Maryland.

Montgomery County residents continue to experience challenges with the growing deer population and we find the MD-DNR proposed reductions of bag limits for both Antlered and Antlerless deer unacceptable. Archery hunting is the only remaining tool for reducing deer herds in our Urban Areas of Montgomery County where the discharge of a firearm is prohibited. Considering this environment, we strongly recommend that MD-DNR RESTORE the Suburban Deer Archery Zone (existed approximately 2006-2012, covering Montgomery, Howard, Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, and Baltimore counties) including an unlimited bag limit of Archery Antlerless Deer in these five counties. We further request that MD-DNR increase the Antlered Deer bag limit from the proposed 2 deer to 6 Antlered deer within the Suburban Deer Archery Zone.

Montgomery County residents believe that we have too many deer and these same residents would not agree with MD-DNR that an unlimited bag limit creates a negative connotation that basically implies that deer are vermin.

With the number of deer vehicle collisions continuing to be reported over 2,000 annually in addition to the number of cases of Lyme disease, we believe the proposed hunting regulations for 2018-2019 should not in any way decrease the number of deer that hunters can harvest in Montgomery County.

The AAC would like to thank you for this opportunity to provide our comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the State of Maryland. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cc: Isiah Leggett, County Executive

