

# Memorandum

## Department of Public Works



**TO:** Michael O. Geisel, P.E.  
City Administrator

**FROM:** James A. Eckrich, P.E. *JAE*  
Public Works Dir. / City Engineer

**DATE:** March 29, 2018

Please forward to the PPW Committee  
for review and information.

MOGEISEL 3/30/2018

**RE:** Removal of Deer from City Right of Way

The City of Chesterfield has been notified that effective June 1, 2018 the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) will no longer remove deer from City right of way. City staff has solicited costs for deer removal from area contractors, with Animal Care Service (ACS) submitting the low bid of \$125 for weekday pickup during business hours, and \$150 for weekend or non-business hour pickup. The City Staff estimates that it will be necessary to remove up to 25 dead deer per year from City right of way, at an estimated annual cost of \$3,500. The costs for 2018 (estimated at \$2,000) will be absorbed within the existing street division budget, with no budget adjustment being requested at this time. Beginning in 2019, the budget request for contractual services will be increased by approximately \$3,500.

Please note that this will not affect deer carcasses located on State or County roadways. Those agencies will still be responsible for the removal of deer (as well as other animals and any debris) located on State and County roadways.

While the City of Chesterfield cannot recommend contractors, residents who contact the City with dead deer on private property will be provided the name and contact information for the contractor used by the City of Chesterfield. ACS has indicated that the cost to remove deer from private property will typically range from \$150 to \$250. This would obviously be paid directly by any residents who choose to use this service. Note that the cost for removing deer from private property is typically higher than that for removing deer from the right of way due to the difficulty in moving the deer to the street where it can be lifted onto a truck for disposal.

### Action Recommended

This matter should be forwarded to the Planning and Public Works Committee for informational purposes only. No action is necessary unless PPW desires for City Staff to handle this matter differently.



# MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

## Headquarters

2901 West Truman Boulevard, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0180  
Telephone: 573-751-4115 ▲ [www.MissouriConservation.org](http://www.MissouriConservation.org)

SARA PARKER PAULEY, Director

REPLY TO: Powder Valley CNC  
11715 Cragwold Road  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
314-301-1500

March 8, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) recognizes and appreciates the efforts of all City, County, and State employees who remove dead deer from roadways and road edges. In some parts of the state, including the St. Louis metropolitan area, MDC has utilized private contractors to remove roadkilled deer on city and county roadways. **Due to changing priorities and effective June 1, 2018, MDC will no longer provide these contracted services.**

Communities have several options to dispose of roadkilled deer. First, deer can frequently be moved short distances away from roadways where they can naturally decompose out of sight and/or smell of residents. MDC recommends moving carcasses no further than necessary due to the slight risk of spreading wildlife disease. Second, deer may be transported to a landfill. Check with local landfills to learn what their policies are for animal remains. Lastly, Animal Care Services, who previously contracted with MDC for deer carcass removal, will pick up and incinerate dead animals for a fee. Animal Care Services can be reached at 636-931-4440. Deer should not be composted.

If an individual wants to possess portions of a deer, including antlers, that is found dead, please instruct them to contact the nearest MDC office so that the proper disposition can be issued.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. I can be reached at 314-301-1500 or [Erin.Shank@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Erin.Shank@mdc.mo.gov).

Sincerely,

Erin Shank  
Urban Wildlife Biologist

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