

RiverValley Deer Management LLC
131 Carmichael Rd Suite 101
Hudson, WI 54016
715-531-0111

**Agreement between the Village of North Hudson, Wisconsin, and
RiverValley Deer Management, LLC.**

In consideration for being allowed to hunt in the Village of North Hudson, RiverValley Deer Management LLC (“RiverValley”) will create, manage and implement a controlled archery only deer hunt in the Village of North Hudson (the “Village”). The hunt will adhere to all requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) deer season, working with the Village Board and Harvey Halvorsen, Wisconsin DNR Wildlife Biologist, to achieve the desired results.

The primary purpose will be to remove antlerless deer and accumulate data regarding the effectiveness of the program for the Village, allowing the Village to continue its Deer Management program.

RiverValley agrees to comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to all hunting regulations. RiverValley acknowledges that hunting is regulated by the State of Wisconsin DNR, not the Village of North Hudson, and this Agreement does not abrogate or modify any hunting laws or regulations in any way.

RiverValley is insured for up to \$3,000,000 in General Liability, \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$300,000 property damage per occurrence. All properties hunted by River Valley and its members are covered by this insurance. The Village of North Hudson is named as an “additional insured” on this policy. RiverValley agrees to provide the Village with a copy of said insurance policy. RiverValley agrees to provide the Village with a certificate of current insurance one week prior to the beginning of hunting activities within the Village, and upon demand at any time thereafter during the hunting season.

The 2020-21 hunt has been designed to reduce the deer population by an estimated 15-20 animals. The agreement would begin on September 12th 2020, the opening day of the Wisconsin archery season. This agreement terminates at the end of the 2020 Wisconsin deer bow hunting season (currently slated to end on January 31, 2021), and may be terminated by either party with one week’s advance notice. In addition, if the Village feels that there is an emergency threat to people or property in the Village, the Village reserves the right to terminate this Agreement without prior notice. RiverValley has 30 days to appeal a termination by submitting a written appeal to the Village Clerk. Said

appeal will be heard at the next Village board meeting following submission of the appeal.

River Valley Deer Management agrees to charge the Village no fees for any costs of implementing the program, including deer tags, insurance, removal and donation of harvested deer.

Background Information

The deer herd in North Hudson has grown considerably in the last 10 years. While deer sightings may be considered a benefit of living in North Hudson by some residents, the growth of the herd has increased deer/car collisions, damaged residential plantings prompting resident complaints, and threatens the biodiversity of our ecosystem as deer dominate the local animal and plant species. According to current DNR estimates, GMU (Game Management Unit) 60M which encompasses all of North Hudson has a deer population of 80 deer per square mile. A healthy population would number 20-30 deer per square mile.

The concept of a controlled hunt to limit, not eliminate, deer populations has been successful in cities in the US, including Wisconsin.

RiverValley's program is modeled after the successful programs employed by Ecologix of Pennsylvania and the Village of Grantsburg, WI.

RiverValley Deer Management LLC is a Wisconsin corporation made up of six Hudson residents with decades of archery experience. All six are certified through Minnesota's Bow Hunter Education Program covering bow hunting techniques, bow hunting safety and hunter responsibility. Two of the members work for law enforcement agencies in Minnesota.

2020 program

The ongoing program for 2020 must be tightly controlled to ensure its success and to collect the necessary data to present to the board for an informed decision to be made regarding continuation of the program. To that end, the 2020 program will consist of the certified hunters of RiverValley acting as the hunters.

Conditions of the Deer Management Program

The following conditions apply to the 2020 Deer Management Program, and it is anticipated that these conditions will apply to any continuation of the program in 2021 however all conditions for 2020 and beyond are subject to change and must be agreed to by the Village.

RiverValley Deer Management will execute the Village deer management program according to the following:

The deer population control method will be archery only hunting where prior written permission is received from the land owner, whether public or private.

The hunt will be conducted within the confines of the Wisconsin DNR archery season. All Wisconsin DNR hunting regulations apply as well as all Village ordinances.

Back tags and registration tags will be obtained by the hunters.

The hunt will be for antlerless deer only unless the hunter possesses an unfilled archery buck tag. All hunters will adhere to RiverValley management policy requiring a minimum of five does harvested to qualify to harvest an antlered deer. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in expulsion from the program.

Hunters need to apply annually for the program. A review of past performance will be a critical component to readmission, as well as an annual proficiency exam.

Hunters

RiverValley hunters will adhere to the highest standards regarding safety, ethics and shot selection. Our hunters agree that promoting bow hunting as a safe, valuable management tool, while reducing antlerless deer in North Hudson safely, is our first and foremost goal.

All hunters accepted into the RiverValley Deer Management program agree to adhere to the highest in ethical standards. Safety of the residents and hunters is our first priority. Shot selection ensuring a quick humane kill, while allowing for a quick recovery, is a must.

All selected hunters will:

- Have at least five years of bow hunting experience.
- Be members of the National Field Archery Association.
- Have completed the required Bow Hunting Education Certification course.
- Agree to antlerless harvest quota.
- Sign and agree with the RiverValley Deer Management “code of conduct, landowner respect” document detailing our stringent ethical and safety regulations.
- Sign a Village Waiver document and agree to a police background check.

All landowners in the program will sign a Village waiver. Copies of all signed landowner waivers will be given to the Village

Follow up

RiverValley agrees that during the ongoing program, it will gather the necessary data to determine the effectiveness of the program. This program will be open to public hunting

participation, subject to the controls and limits required under the Deer Management Program.

The archery deer season continues until January 31, 2021. RiverValley Deer will keep the Village representatives apprised of the progress made during the hunt.

Accepted by:

Melissa Luedke, Village Administrator

Lon Feia, President, RiverValley
Deer Management LLC

Date

Date