

BC SPCA's STANCE ON URBAN DEER MANAGEMENT

The BC SPCA is opposed to the culling of deer when it cannot be performed humanely, and/or when there is no scientific justification for the cull.

We support the use of non-lethal measures outlined in this brochure to address human-deer conflicts. Professional and highly regulated use of contraception and translocation are also experimental options that require more research in the province.



Culling is a **short-term** and **unsustainable** solution

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Photographs courtesy of:
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URBAN DEER in British Columbia



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WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Take action by following these 5 humane, effective options for managing urban deer in your neighbourhood



1 DON'T FEED DEER. It encourages them to remain in the area and creates dependency

2 FENCING. Deer are not likely to jump a fence that they cannot see through



3 DETERRENTS. Motion-activated lights, sprinkler systems, and banging pots and pans will all deter deer

4 LANDSCAPING. Deer love certain plants, such as narrow-leaf evergreens, daylilies and tulips, so these should be avoided. Deer will stay away from poisonous, fragrant, and prickly plants like daffodils, lavender, and rhododendrons. Using these plants will keep deer uninterested in your yard.

5 FOLLOW THE SPEED LIMIT. Respecting traffic laws will result in less deer-related accidents

FAQs

What is the problem with urban deer anyway?

The most common issues cited are related to garden damage and car accidents.

Wouldn't a cull solve these problems?

A natural phenomenon called a "compensatory effect" occurs with population loss. Before long, the same number of deer (if not more) will return to the unclaimed food sources in that area.

Are deer aggressive?

No! Deer are *flight*, not *fight*, animals. The only exception is when they are protecting their fawn. Stay away from fawns and you'll be safe.

What should I do if I see someone feeding deer?

Inform them that feeding increases the population. If they continue, report them to law enforcement as this is against by-laws.

Where can I learn more?

To read the BC SPCA Urban Deer Position Statement and learn more about what *you* can do, visit: spca.bc.ca/urban-deer