

# **Forest Preserve District of Will County**

## **Deer Management Program 2019-2020 Report**

**Summary Report for IDNR Deer Population Control Permit Numbers:  
TSP014-19, TSP015-19, TSP016-19, TSP017-19, TSP018-19, TSP020-19**

The Forest Preserve District of Will County removed a total of 146 white-tailed deer from seven preserve areas permitted for deer management (Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve, Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve, McKinley Woods Preserve, Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve, Hickory Creek Preserve, Thorn Creek Preserve, and the Kankakee Sands Geologic Area) between December 09, 2019 and February 10, 2020.

A brief analysis of the data indicates that, of the deer removed, 41% were female and 59% were male, 31% of all deer removed this season were fawns, and 42% of all females were visibly pregnant. Across all preserves in 2019-20, the 65 females taken averaged 113 lbs., and the 81 males taken averaged 133 lbs.

Table 1. Total deer removed per site by age

Preserve	Adult	Yearling	Fawn	Total
Lockport	2	1	1	4
Romeoville	3	1	1	5
McKinley	18	3	14	35
Goodenow	11	3	5	19
Hickory	17	6	12	35
Thorn Creek	13	2	3	18
Kankakee Sands	14	7	9	30
Total	78	23	45	146

Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve (LPN) take consisted of 2 females (50%) with an average weight of 85.5 lbs. and 2 males (50%) with an average weight of 160.0 lbs.

Table 2. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve

Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	0	0	0.0		Adult	2	320	160.0
Yearling	1	105	105.0		Yearling	0	0	0.0
Fawn	1	66	66.0		Fawn	0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>85.5</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>160.0</b>

Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve (RPN) take consisted of 2 females (40%) with an average weight of 125.0 lbs. and 3 males (60%) with an average weight of 106.7 lbs.

Table 3. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve

Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	1	135	135.0		Adult	2	308	154.0
Yearling	1	115	115.0		Yearling	0	0	0.0
Fawn	0	0	0.0		Fawn	1	95	95.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>125.0</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>106.7</b>

McKinley Woods Preserve (MWP) produced 13 females (37%) with an average weight of 116.8 lbs., and 22 males (63%) with an average weight of 126.1 lbs.

Table 4. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at McKinley Woods Preserve

McKinley Woods Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	7	1006	143.7		Adult	11	1794	163.1
Yearling	1	120	120.0		Yearling	2	216	108.0
Fawn	5	392	78.4		Fawn	9	765	85.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>116.8</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2775</b>	<b>126.1</b>

Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve (GGN) produced 8 females (42%) with an average weight of 124.0 lbs., and 11 males (58%) with an average weight of 130.0 lbs.

Table 5. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve

Goodenow Grove Nature Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	5	725	145.0		Adult	6	993	165.5
Yearling	1	104	104.0		Yearling	2	199	99.5
Fawn	2	163	81.5		Fawn	3	238	79.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>124.0</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>130.0</b>

Hickory Creek Preserve (HCP) produced a take of 15 females (43%) with an average weight of 125.5 lbs., and 20 males (57%) with an average weight of 126.5 lbs.

Table 6. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Hickory Creek Preserve

Hickory Creek Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	8	1172	146.5		Adult	9	1597	177.4
Yearling	4	448	112.0		Yearling	2	251	125.5
Fawn	3	262	87.3		Fawn	9	682	75.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1882</b>	<b>125.5</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2530</b>	<b>126.5</b>

The Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve (TCN) produced 8 females (44%) with an average weight of 130.8 lbs., and 10 males (56%) with an average weight of 144.6 lbs.

Table 7. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve

Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	5	763	152.6		Adult	8	1258	157.3
Yearling	1	120	120.0		Yearling	1	100	100.0
Fawn	2	163	81.5		Fawn	1	88	88.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>130.8</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>144.6</b>

The Kankakee Sands Geologic Area produced 10 females (36%) with an average weight of 150.0 lbs., and 18 males with an average weight of 109.7 lbs.

Table 8. Average deer weights (lbs.) by sex and age at Kankakee Sands Geologic Area

Kankakee Sands Geologic Area								
Females	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight		Males	# Deer	Total Weight	Average Weight
Adult	6	1093	182.2		Adult	6	945	157.5
Yearling	3	338	112.7		Yearling	4	418	104.5
Fawn	1	69	69.0		Fawn	8	611	76.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>150.0</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>109.7</b>

Freedom Sausage, of Earlville, Illinois, processed 146 deer producing 5,285 pounds of ground venison. Northern Illinois Food Bank, in St. Charles, Illinois received the ground venison for distribution to needy families in northeastern Illinois. Internal organs and waste materials were collected for rendering by Kaluzny Brothers of Joliet, Illinois.

As directed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), multiple samples were taken from the deer to test for Chronic Wasting Disease before they were processed. The 82 samples collected were shipped to Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of the University of Illinois in Normal, Illinois. None of the CWD samples were positive in the 2019-2020 season.