



# Kent County Road Commission

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Township Supervisors and Staff  
**From:** Paul Murphy, Local Road Manager  
**Date:** September 25, 2024  
**Subject:** Deer Removal from Properties (Outside ROW)

We have recently received a higher volume of inquiries from residents requesting KCRC to remove deer from outside the right-of-way, specifically from residential and business properties. Below is information that can assist you and your staff when addressing these inquiries.

### Important Guidelines for Residents:

- 1. Do Not Drag Dead Deer to the Roadside:**
  - Residents and business owners should **not** drag dead deer from their properties to the roadside.
  - KCRC crews prioritize the removal of large animals killed in vehicle collisions from the right-of-way to ensure safety for motorists.
- 2. KCRC's Role:**
  - KCRC is not a wildlife management agency, and we lack the necessary funding and resources to remove relocated or diseased animals. This activity detracts from our ability to focus on essential road maintenance.
- 3. Private Removal Services:**
  - Residents seeking to remove dead deer from their properties can contact private wildlife removal companies for assistance, typically for a fee. For example, **Rest in Peace (616-886-8639) is a local company addressing removal requests.** Their fees vary based on the accessibility of the carcass.

### Additional Options Provided by the DNR:

- **Consult Trash Removal Companies:** Some companies offer large-item removal services for a small fee.
- **Burial or Natural Decomposition:** Residents may choose to bury the carcass or allow it to decompose naturally, providing food for wildlife.
- **Wildlife Removal Resources:** The DNR provides a list of nuisance wildlife companies by county on their website for further assistance.