The Hunter’s View of CWD
Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
Conversation on CWD
Saturday, March 16, 2019
MISSION STATEMENT

To serve as the guardian for wild deer conservation and our hunting heritage.
DETAILED MISSION

1. Advocating for sustainable, science-based conservation of wild deer.
2. Promoting responsible solutions to protect fair-chase hunting.
3. Serving as a leading provider of credible, responsible, and timely information.
4. Uniting hunters, managers, state & federal agencies, the hunting industry, government officials, and non-hunters to ensure welfare and sustainability of deer populations and their habitat.
KEY FOCUS AREAS

- Wild Deer Conservation
- Diseases
- Hunter Access
- Marketing, Communications, and Growth
- State and Federal Land Management
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE
National Deer Alliance Calls for Immediate Investigation of Minnesota Board of Animal Health

February 22, 2017 | by National Deer Alliance

On the heels of a scathing February 20 article by reporter Tony Kennedy of the Minneapolis Star Tribune, the National Deer Alliance (NDA) is calling for an immediate investigation by the Minnesota Office of the Legislative Auditor of the Board of Animal Health, the agency responsible for oversight of the state’s 460 deer and elk farms.
There is No Evidence that CWD is Transmissible to Humans
February 25, 2019 | by National Deer Alliance

The National Deer Alliance reminds hunters, or anyone else who consumes wild venison, that there remains no scientific evidence that chronic wasting disease is transmissible to humans.

Read More

NDA and Conservation Partners Support Pennsylvania Game Commission’s Management of CWD
February 19, 2019 | by National Deer Alliance

NDA is joined by an impressive list of conservation organizations supporting the PA Game Commission’s CWD management strategy.

Read More

NDA Urges Caution when Considering CWD Research Claims
February 18, 2019 | by National Deer Alliance

Please consider the following research, which is related to the claim currently receiving a good deal of publicity that Spiroplasma bacteria are the causative agents of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) like chronic wasting disease (CWD).

Read More
“The diversity of groups and individuals who will implement this plan offer unique expertise, experience, and capabilities that will be required for any meaningful progress to be made on this critical issue. If united in this effort, there is hope. The goal is to get the most out of an effective conservation partnership through routine collaboration and information sharing.”

CWD National Plan Key Elements

- Communications
- Research
- Agency Outreach
- Political Action
INCONVENIENT TRUTHS

- No known cure
- No known vaccine
- No accurate or practical live animal test
- No rapid result test for harvested deer
- Not proven to be transmissible to humans, but concern remains
- People are largely uneducated or unaware, or choose not to be
Deer hunters are inactive on issues.
Conflicting information/management is prevalent.
Hunters are naturally biased.
CWD is scary, inconvenient, and we hope it goes away.
The results of numerous studies suggest that people are biased to interpret information in ways that are consistent with their desires.
NOT SEEING IS DISBELIEVING

Sawyer Buck If cwd is highly infectious and always fatal, WHERE ARE ALL THE DEAD OR ALMOST DEAD DEER in long known endemic areas in Wisconsin and etc?

Hunters and most Americans are not stupid.
Like · Reply · Message · January 30 at 12:40pm

Mike Kerry Mule..Whitetail...Still a deer regardless and was found many moons ago. This case is just like so many others. 1 out of how many 100's or 1000's of wild deer with the harmless disease. So glad hunters and the public is catching on to the CWD hoax used to payroll new useless jobs and the needle in the haystack science. Your fake ship has sailed with many catching on to the sae old question? Where are all the Dead Deer??????
Like · Reply · Message · January 30 at 5:42pm
The mental discomfort that people experience when confronted with contradictory information, particularly on matters related to well being.
Garry Dillaman: Well I have to say I hunt Elk County Jefferson County And Butler County and have yet to see a sick deer. So shoot 2 hundred deer to Check. We just had hunting season With headrop offs to check for this. None found why would you need to Kill more I am very up set with this action. A group down south in Blair County stopped you Why do you think you can kill in other parts of PA. Or do we have to put it on bill boards like they did. If it spreads to humans then a state parks cooks forest clear Creek to mention a few will close to protect the public. And deer get a drink steams will close. GET REAL THIS IS NOT A MAJOR issue

Gary Dick: They can't stop it. Its here and it will run its course. Its nature. The elk will get it and it will run its course just like the rest of the states. The pgc needs to research their facts a little better. What they say works isn't what the other states say.
The tendency to believe, or agree with, the ideas of people you like or admire, and to disagree with those you dislike.
CWD is a scam and for the life of me cannot figure out why it is being jammed down our throats. Stand up and fight for what you believe in my friends. It really is us against them. Do it for our beloved deer and lifestyle.
PA HUNTERS
STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS BEFORE
THE GAME COMMISSION
SLAUGHTER THE DEER
ESTIMATED TO SHOOT 2,000 DEER!
Yes, CWD Kills Deer. A Mississippi Hunter Watched It Happen.

March 1, 2018 | By Lindsey Thomas, Jr.

“He weighed 96 pounds on the hoof. The average live weight for a 4½-year-old buck on this club is 190. It was obvious this deer had been sick for a while.”

“This has caused so much grief,” Joe told me. “We’ve got a really good thing going in Mississippi with our deer herd, and I hate to see this happen.”

It’s vitally important for all deer hunters to know what happens to hunters like those in Issaquena County when CWD is discovered so that everyone can contribute to preventing its arrival in new areas.
HUNTING IN KNOWN CWD AREAS

Decisions to Make: Thoughts on Harvesting a CWD-Positive Deer
February 13, 2017 | by Eric Michel
I found myself continually trying to justify keeping the meat but always felt uneasy when I thought about actually consuming it. Then I started thinking about the big picture. I enjoy cooking wild game for family and friends but I would never serve them venison from a CWD positive animal. What am I going to do, separate my venison into two piles: CWD positive and CWD negative?

After talking to family and friends about my situation, I couldn’t believe how much misinformation there is out there. Many people in southwestern Wisconsin are seemingly unconcerned with CWD and are definitely uninformed. I completely understand that it’s up to an individual to decide what they will do with the venison if they harvest a CWD-positive deer. But I hope that hunters will take it upon themselves to become more educated on the topic so they can make informed decisions.
PERSONAL EXAMPLE
CWD IS ON MY DOORSTEP
Why Chronic Wasting Disease Shouldn’t Scare You Away from Deer Hunting

What CWD States Have You Hunted In?

Don’t let CWD keep you away from the deer woods. When opening day comes this fall, be afield to enjoy God’s creation. (Shutterstock / Nate Allred photo)
HUNTERS WANT TO HUNT
DIVISION WILL NOT HELP SOLVE THE ISSUE
A STORM IS BREWING

Hope is NOT a Strategy
BIG GAME HUNTING RULES

80%
Economic Impact in the U.S.

- Apx. 80% of all hunters hunt big game
- Deer hunting represents 58.7% of total hunting expenditures
- Apx. 70% of all hunters hunt deer
- Spend about $15.7 billion annually
- Generates $129.5 million daily
THE BAD NEWS

Since 2011

- Overall hunter participation DOWN 16%.
- Number of big game hunters DOWN 20%.
- Hunting related spending DOWN 29%.
- Wildlife watching UP 18%.

Source: USFWS 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation
THE INFLUENCE OF CWD?
“In a moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing to do, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.”

Theodore Roosevelt
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE
At some point you just have to let go of what you thought should happen, and live in what is happening.