Urban Deer Management

Colorado Springs City Council Work Session May 7, 2018

> Frank McGee, Area Wildlife Manager Cody Wigner, District Wildlife Manager Julie Stiver, Wildlife Biologist



Urban Deer Management

- Biological Carrying Capacity
 - Maximum number habitat can support
- Ecological Carrying Capacity
 - Deer don't negatively impact ecosystem

Social Carrying Capacity

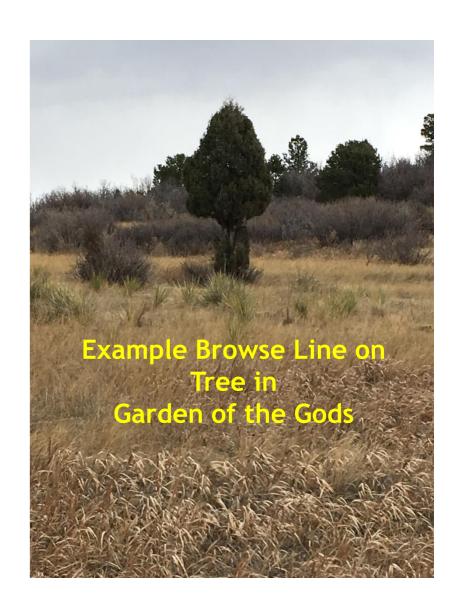
 Number of deer-human conflicts humans can accept/tolerate

Source: DRAFT Guidelines for Managing Deer in Populated Areas. The Human Wildlife Conflicts Working Group. Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.



Urban Deer Management Biological & Ecological Carrying Capacity

- Consequences for Humans
 - Property Damage
 - Deer defoliate & damage plants
 - Businesses & Homeowners: Damage to Landscaping, Gardens, Ornamentals
 - City & County Parks





Urban Deer Management Public Safety

- Consequences for Humans
 - Human Safety & Property Damage
 - Deer-Vehicle Collisions
 - Injuries to vehicle occupants
 - Vehicle Damage
 - \$4,179 per claim*
 - Many collisions go unreported

*Source: 15th Annual State Farm Deer Claim Study





Urban Deer Management Public Safety

- Aggressive Behavior
 - Although rare, deer can attack & injure people



Black Forest woman survives deer attack

By: Scott Harrison

Posted: Dec 14, 2017 07:43 PM MST

Updated: Dec 14, 2017 07:43 PM MST

















Deer in Urban Environments

- Illegal Feeding
 - Deer can't digest humansupplied foods
 - Decreases home range
- Diseases/Parasites

Tick infestation on deer from Broadmoor Bluffs







Deer in Urban Environments

- Illegal Feeding
 - Deer can't digest humansupplied foods
 - Decreases home range
- Diseases/Parasites
- Injuries
 - Vehicle Collisions
 - Entanglements (fences, holiday lights, ect...)





Deer in Urban Environments Entanglements





