



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point
12800 Gerard Drive

Eden Prairie, MN 55346

(952) 835-2078

www.ninemilecreek.org

MEMO

TO: Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers
FROM: Randy Anhorn
DATE: December 11, 2019
RE: Eden Prairie Request to use District property for the City's 2019-2020 Deer Management Program

Background

The City of Eden Prairie is again requesting permission to use the District's property at 12800 Gerard Drive, for their 2019-2020 Deer Management Program. They have made similar requests to the District in the past and have received permission in 2018 and 2019. Each time we had required the City to enter into a temporary access agreement with us. While they have received permission in the past, they have yet to use the District's property.

The goal of the program is to try to control the deer population in the City at levels that are in line with MN DNR recommendations.

The City is looking to again reduce the number of deer in the Cardinal Creek Conservation Area and while they have used the trail on city-owned property to the north of the District's property as the control site in the past, they feel the District's property provides a more desirable and safe alternative. To determine when and where they need to reduce deer populations, they conduct counts from the air and track citizen complaints. They continue to receive many complaints neighbors on Gerard and Top View.

Attached is a formal request letter from the city and the press release that the City published in local papers that provides a little more information on the program.

Additional information includes:

When: On select evenings (9 p.m. to midnight) from late-December to early-February.
How: A 2-3-person team with a spotter/area safety control person and a sharpshooter (rifle with silencer) shooting over a baited area toward the wetland.
Goal: To reduce the areas deer population by 5-12 deer, with the emphasis on does. They intend to avoid fawns, yearlings and bucks.

If the District decides to not provide permission for the City to use the District's property, they would still work to reduce the deer in the area by going back to using the trail on city-owned property.

Request

Discuss the City's request and provide direction to staff.