Deer Immunocontraception Implementation Phase I: 2014

Village of Hastings-on-Hudson
Agenda

• Quick History (Peter)
• Phase 1 Implementation (Rick)
• Volunteer Roles (Peter & Allen)
The Problem

*in numbers*

- 100+ cases of Lyme disease a year, some devastating in consequence
- Serious forest degradation including decimation of the understory
- At least 20 car accidents a year
- $500K plus in property damage/cost
- Total economic damage in excess of $1 million a year
# Agenda

- Quick History
- **Phase 1 Implementation**
- Volunteer Roles
The Implementation Team

• Immunocontraception study will be run by Dr. Rutberg of Tufts University
• Implementation this year will be by a Humane Society specialist who will carry out the darting, Rick Naugle
• Local metrics will be run by local volunteers.
Volunteers have entered 450+ loggings into a system created and monitored by resident Richard Ryan.

Student Jordan Alligood created a javascript program that converts the data and then imports it into a heat map where we can see the greatest reported activity.
• Immunocontraception controls deer by inducing infertility in does.
• In other experiments, numbers have been brought down by more than 50% in 4-5 years.
• Deer are darted with anesthetics and then injected with a contraceptive that works for 2 years.
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• Quick History
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Volunteer Roles

• Phase 1: Implementation
  - Access control and site management
  - Deer tracking (following darted deer)
  - Logistics support

• Phase 1: Metrics

  Project owners and participants
  - Continued deer sighting logging
  - Hosta honey-pots
  - Wood plots
  - Other metrics gathering