



## Coexisting with White-tailed Deer



[www.rochesterhills.org/deer](http://www.rochesterhills.org/deer)

## Fall and Winter Driving Safety

Late fall and early winter are periods of high deer activity. Their behavior at this time of year accounts for the majority of car deer accidents.

### What You Can Do

- Stay aware, alert, sober and always use your safety belt
- Observe deer crossing signs and posted speed limits
- If you see one deer, slow down. Chances are there are others nearby and be especially alert for deer at dusk and dawn (flashing your high-beam headlights or honking will not deter deer)

### If a Crash is Unavoidable

- Don't swerve! Brake firmly, hold on to the steering wheel, stay in your lane and bring your vehicle to a controlled stop
- Pull off the road, turn on your emergency flashers and be cautious of other traffic
- Don't attempt to remove a deer from the roadway and report the crash to the nearest police agency

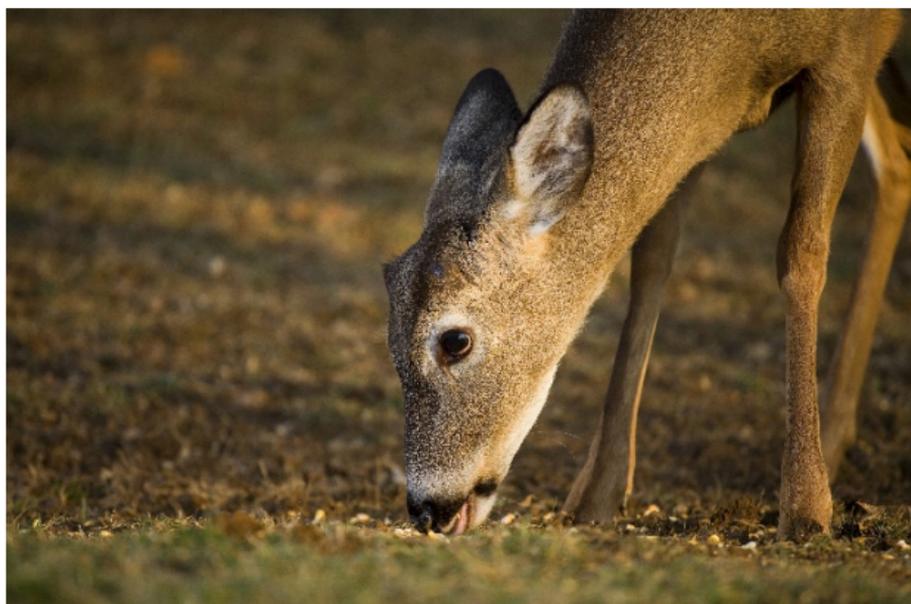


## City Ordinance

The City of Rochester Hills prohibits the feeding of deer or hunting of any kind within the city.

### **Section 14-91 Deer Feeding Prohibited**

“No person may place or permit placement on the ground or within five feet of the ground any fruit, berries, grain, vegetables, nuts, salt or other edible material or bait which may reasonably be expected to attract or feed deer unless such materials are covered or protected in a way to prevent deer from feeding on them.”

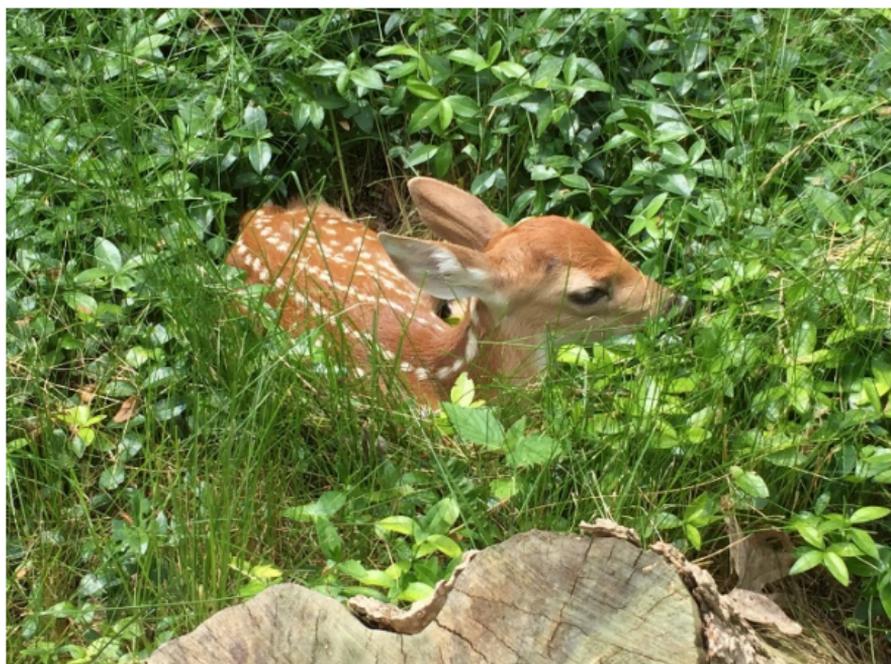


### **Section 70-1 Hunting**

“No person shall hunt wild game or fowl or in any manner carry any gun, weapon or firearm within the city for the purpose of hunting any wild game or fowl at any time.”

## Fawns

White-tailed deer fawns are born in the spring, typically May and June. Does are very protective of their fawns and can be overly aggressive towards humans and pets.



It is important to note that does leave newborn fawns for long periods of time, usually returning at dawn and dusk to nurse them. This strategy helps keep the fawn safe from detection.

If you discover a fawn, the mother is almost always nearby. Enjoy them from a distance but take care not to disturb the fawn.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the City's Natural Resources Divisions wildlife unit at (248) 656-4673.

## Gardening

There are very few plants that are completely deer resistant. Here are some suggestions for selecting plants that are less likely to be eaten.

- Plants with prickly foliage or brambles (e.g. Globe thistle)
- Plants with furry leaves (e.g. Lambs Ears)
- Plants with strong scents or tastes (e.g. Rosemary, Garlic)

For a complete list go to:

[www.rochesterhills.org/deer](http://www.rochesterhills.org/deer)



Along with choosing deer resistant plants, fencing, repellants and scare tactics can be effective. A multi-faceted approach using a variety of techniques such as motion activated sprinklers, coyote decoys, other deterrents, and repellents that are applied often, especially after it rains can be a solid deer deterrent plan. Being persistent and changing strategies frequently will improve your chances of successfully gardening with wildlife.