

CLEVELAND METROPARKS

established 1917

clevelandmetroparks.com

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Honorable Kevin Hurst
Walton Hills Village Hall
7595 Walton Road
Walton Hills, Ohio 44146

January 4, 2018

Re: Cleveland Metroparks 2018 Deer Management Program

Dear Mayor Kevin Hurst:

I am writing to inform you that Cleveland Metroparks will be continuing our deer management program this winter to establish and maintain a balanced ecosystem. A portion of Bedford Reservation is within the municipal boundaries of the City of Walton Hills, and management is planned for this reservation. From noon to 6 am the following morning, portions or all of Bedford Reservation will be closed to the public on several days from January 16 through March 15, 2018.

The safety protocol that has been successfully utilized by Cleveland Metroparks from the beginning of the program will continue. Safety remains the number one goal of our natural resource management team and our highly skilled and trained marksmen. Your police department will be notified prior to the initiation of management within Rocky River Reservation. The reservation will be posted/signed and closed completely during the management program. All shots will be fired from elevated positions using noise-suppressed rifles.

In addition to the posted closure signs, all residents who own property adjacent to Cleveland Metroparks property will be sent a letter informing them of the program. As in past years, venison will be donated to a local food bank.

Cleveland Metroparks has worked hard to insure that the deer management program is safe, humane and effective. If you have questions, please contact me at (440) 253-2162.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Robison".

Terry L. Robison, PhD
Director of Natural Resources

c: Chief Richard Svoboda, Cleveland Metroparks Rangers
Chief Stan Jaworksi, Chief of Police, Village of Walton Hills