

City of Morgantown Urban Archery Deer Hunt Fact Sheet – Updated February 2023

When was the hunt started?

The first hunt occurred in 2011 after Morgantown's City Council unanimously approved action to help with the City's widespread deer issues. An aerial infrared survey of the City limits earlier that spring showed that the population was well-above carrying capacity. Each year, the hunt runs from the first Saturday in September through December 31 and the last two weeks of January.

Who are the hunters?

Participating hunters are men and women that live in the Morgantown community. They are experienced bowhunters and have completed the National Bowhunter Education Foundation course, along with an archery proficiency test, prior to joining the urban hunt. The hunters are safe, discrete and considerate individuals who have pledged their time to volunteer to help their community with the deer problem.

What about liability if I allow hunters onto my property and an accident occurs?

This is one of the most common questions asked by prospective landowners. Chapter 19, Article 25 of West Virginia State Code relieves private landowners from liability when they provide hunters and fishermen access to their property.

How do I know who is on my property? How will I know when they are hunting?

This hunt is very organized. Hunters are assigned to properties and are required to meet with the landowner prior to hunting. Landowners have complete control of establishing the hunting days and times. Our hunters and landowners are strongly encouraged to keep an open line of communication during the hunt.

What have the urban bowhunters accomplished?

In the first 12 years, Morgantown's urban bowhunters have harvested 1,129 deer and have donated 11,706 pounds of ground venison to help the citizens of Morgantown in need. Multiple landowners have seen a significant drop in deer-related damage to their property. Most importantly, our hunters have maintained a perfect safety record.

Who can I contact with questions?

Paul Crumrine is the current volunteer coordinator of the City of Morgantown's urban archery hunt. His contact information is as follows: **304.216.3040**, pecrumrine@gmail.com

Rick Bebout is the immediate past volunteer coordinator of the City of Morgantown's urban archery hunt. His contact information is as follows: **304.290.7505**, bebout.rick@gmail.com