

10-3-14

Title: Antler Restrictions in Clark County

The Problem:

Too many bucks are being harvested before they can reach two and a half years of age. The large percentage of adolescent bucks being harvested results in skewed buck to doe ratios, resulting in late born, small, vulnerable fawns and disgruntled hunters whom are trying to manage for large, mature deer.

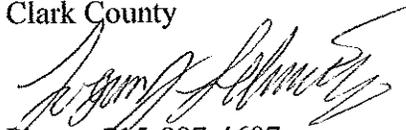
The lack of mature bucks (≥ 2.5 years of age) and large bodied fawns jeopardizes the quality of the deer population for the following years.

At present, state law does not enforce antler restrictions of any type for any season. I feel that Wisconsin law should be consistent with portions of Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Minnesota, and Missouri, which require a buck to have at least four legal points on a single antler to be legal for harvest in any season. However, any hunter in possession of a Junior Deer Hunting License would be exempt from this law.

Clark County deer hunters are dissatisfied with the current portion of large bodied, mature deer in the county's population.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Clark County on April 14, 2014 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing antler restrictions to be followed for all seasons by all deer hunters in Clark County not in possession of a Junior Deer Hunting license.

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