DEER NEW JERSEY,

Let's find balance for our forests, farms, and families.

COMMUNITY GUIDE

For local leaders and residents

COMMUNITY DEER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A community process people can trust.

Start with safety, local evidence and respectful dialogue before debating specific methods.



WHY FORM ONE?

A transparent advisory committee gives residents a place to define shared principles, review local evidence and develop recommendations.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Include public safety, parks and ecology, animal welfare, gardeners, hunters, youth, commuters and other residents willing to seek common ground.

A SEVEN-STEP PATH FOR THE FIRST 90–180 DAYS

1	**Form the committee**	Adopt a clear charter, diverse membership and a six-month recommendation timeline.
2	**Gather local evidence**	Map crashes and near misses. Document deer browse in parks and greenways.
3	**Agree on principles**	Establish respect for deer, public safety, healthy parks, transparency and local control.
4	**Begin with safety**	Use signs, better sightlines, speed measures and seasonal driver awareness for early progress.
5	**Evaluate the options**	Compare nonlethal, lethal and combined approaches through ethical, legal and local lenses.
6	**Design a measured pilot**	Choose one park or corridor. Define outcomes, approvals, resources and independent monitoring.
7	**Report, adapt and scale**	Publish results, listen to residents, expand what works and set aside what does not.

Start with common ground.

Deer New Jersey can help with the committee charter, local evidence, community communication and pilot planning.

Get the full guide: deernj.org

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FULL GUIDE