

At a meeting of the village trustees, Professor Paul Curtis, the advisor to the Deer Remediation Committee, said, "If there weren't too many deer in the village we wouldn't be having this meeting." That is true tonight, and it defines the problem the trustees are working to solve.

As you know, the trustees recommended reducing the number of deer in Cayuga Heights by a phased program of sterilization and culling. The dEIS does a very good job of commenting on this plan. I urge you to read it if you haven't already.

In contrast, the so-called "alternatives" put forward by caygadeer.org do not address the overpopulation problem and would make it worse. They clearly want the village to do nothing, and to let the environmental damage continue until the herd size is limited by disease and starvation.

Cayugadeer.org has engaged in a scare campaign based on the use of firearms to cull the herd. But when a culling technique that does not require firearms is mooted, they immediately denounce it. This proves that their sole interest is the deer and not the welfare of people who live in the village.

They seem incapable of honest and rational debate. They have waged a campaign of defamation and demonization of the village trustees. To conclude I want to propose a round of applause for our Mayor and trustees for their tenacity and courage in dealing with the deer issue.

Peter S. Bottorff


Cayuga Heights