

## **WILD LIFE DAMAGE ABATEMENT AND CLAIMS PROGRAM**

The Wisconsin Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP) is funded by a \$2 surcharge on most hunting licenses, and a \$2 surcharge on Conservation Patron licenses, and by a \$12 resident (\$20 nonresident) bonus deer permit fee. The WDACP emphasis is on damage abatement. The program seeks to lower wild deer, bear, turkey, and goose crop damage to tolerable levels through the following:

### **Abatement Practices for Commercial Agricultural Producers:**

1. Permits for Landowner/Lessee Authorization to Shoot Deer and Bear Causing Agricultural Damage.
2. Trapping and relocation of bear doing damage to agricultural crops, livestock and apiaries.
3. Provide materials for temporary electric deer and bear fences.
4. Cost sharing for eligible permanent barrier type deer fences.
5. Implement modifications of agricultural practices, and/or use of scare devices and repellants.

### **Claims:**

If abatement is unsuccessful the commercial crop owner may receive compensation for that year's eligible crop damage, subject to a \$500 per claim deductible, a \$10,000 maximum and they may be subject to the availability of funds. Crop prices are set annually to reflect market conditions.

### **Deer Donation Program:**

The Wisconsin Deer Donation program is designed to use existing WDACP funds to pay for processing of deer harvested and donated by hunters in Wisconsin. The venison is then processed and distributed free of charge to needy people across the state of Wisconsin. The focus of the program allows hunters to shoot additional deer and helps reduce the state's deer population. The program allows hunters to shoot the extra deer, removes financial costs to the hunter, and the venison is not wasted but is distributed to needy families throughout Wisconsin. The intent of the program is to reduce the deer herd and hopefully to reduce agricultural damage in the future.

### **FOR MORE PROGRAM INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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