



Fact Sheet 1.2

What are other towns doing with respect to deer hunts?

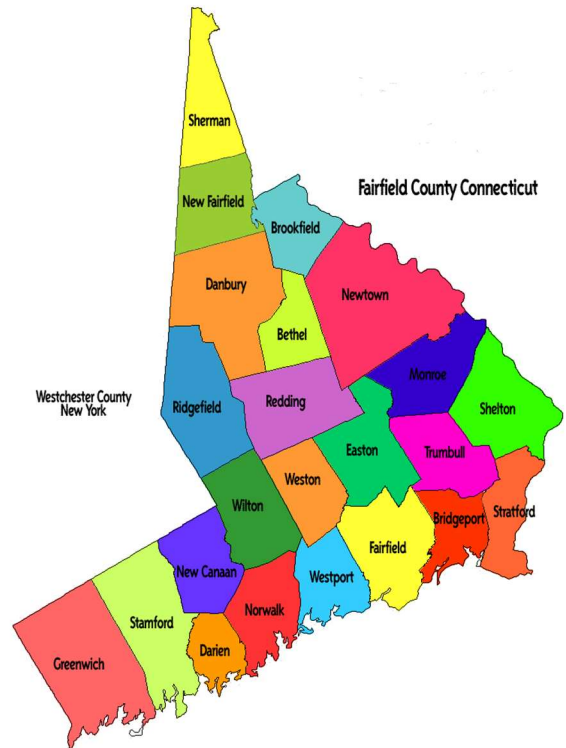
To get a better perspective on what other nearby towns are doing with respect to deer hunts, contact was made with 23 towns in Fairfield County and with four Westchester towns bordering Ridgefield. Our research into Fairfield County towns is presented in Table 1.2-1. Highlights include:

- Out of 23 towns in Fairfield County, six towns (including Ridgefield) sponsor a controlled hunt on town lands.
- Ridgefield and Wilton are the only towns that use “all implements” on some of the hunted parcels. The other four are bow only.
- Among the six towns hunting parcels with trails, Ridgefield and Wilton are the only towns that close specific trails during the hunt.
- Weston began their hunt in 2018 specifically to target Lyme. They take only 20 deer/year and close the hunt when that number is reached.
- Weston’s hunt is supervised by the Animal Control officer.
- Brookfield’s hunt is run by their Deer Committee, with input from the Conservation Commission.
- Ridgefield’s and Wilton’s hunts are approved by the BOS (with input from Conservation Commission) and run by the Deer Management Committees.
- Bethel & Redding hunts are supervised by the First Selectman/BOS.

Westchester County

Controlled hunts in Westchester County are by archery only, no baiting is allowed, and parks remain open during the hunt. The 2018 Westchester County Adaptive Deer Management Program managed controlled hunts

in Cross River, North Salem, Somers, Yorktown and Yorktown Heights.



Of the four Westchester towns bordering Ridgefield (Lewisboro, Brewster, Pound Ridge, North Salem), only Pound Ridge has a controlled hunt on town lands. It is managed by the Police Department. Only one parcel has hiking trails and it remains open.

The Bottom Line

Out of 23 towns in Fairfield County, only six sponsor a controlled hunt on town land. Four of those towns restrict hunting to bow only. Only Ridgefield and Wilton close trails.

Table 1.2-1

Deer Hunt Data for Fairfield County Towns

Fairfield County	Town-sponsored deer hunt?	Hunting on State/Land Trust/Utility land	Specifics
Bethel	Yes	Yes	two town parcels, bow only, no trails
Bridgeport	No		
Brookfield	Yes		Six town parcels, bow only, trails stay open
Danbury	No	Yes	
Darien	No		Deer Committee disbanded in 2012
Easton	No	Yes	
Fairfield	No		
Greenwich	No	Yes	
Monroe	No	Yes	
New Canaan	No		
New Fairfield	No	Yes	
Newtown	No	Yes	
Norwalk	No		
Redding	Yes	Yes	15 town parcels, bow only, trails stay open
Ridgefield	Yes	Yes	
Shelton	No	Yes	
Sherman	No	Yes	
Stamford	No		
Stratford	No	Yes	
Trumbull	No	Yes	
Weston	Yes	Yes	five town parcels, bow only, no trails
Westport	No		
Wilton	Yes	Yes	four town trails, all implements, no trails