

“We will discuss the potential legal implications of failing to have a sufficient written lease and the potential legal issues and litigation that the development of written leases can help avoid,” she said. “The workshops will also familiarize participants with key terms and provisions that should be considered in lease negotiations.”

Participants will receive a leasing handbook that covers legal issues, designing lease payment structures and calculating payments, landowner liability, as well as checklists and sample lease forms for negotiating lease agreements.

Predatory animal hunts to be held

The Major League Wildlife Unlimited Association, a non-profit organization based in the West Texas area, announced today it is devising a plan to control predatory animals such as feral hogs, coyotes and foxes and other animals that damage our ecosystem.

Through competitive contest hunts (with numerous prizes) spokesman Lee Browning hopes to preserve natural wildlife habitats while shrinking the population of predatory and nuisance animals. Feral hogs, coyotes and fox cause millions of dollars worth of damage to crops, cause water loss quality due to erosion, destruction of landscape and spread diseases to domestic animals, livestock and deer.

The predators prey on nesting birds, small livestock and reptiles, which impact the ecosystem of our area.

Join us today to be eligible for numerous prizes, raffle drawings and lottery drawings. Visit www.wildlifemembership.org or contact Lee Browning 806-729-7894 or Bruce Williams 806-239-0006.

Deer bow hunting season underway

The Texas bow hunting season, limited to archery equipment only, opened statewide September 30. Hunting prospects are expected to be good across the state, according to wildlife biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).

While the archery-only season has kicked off, the general gun season opener is a little less than a month away on November 4. A special youth-only weekend season is set for October 28 - 29. The general season runs through January 7, 2018, in North Texas and January 21, 2018, in South Texas. A late youth-only season is also slated for January 8 - 21, 2018. For additional late season deer hunting opportunities and county specific regulations, consult the 2017-18 Outdoor Annual of hunting and fishing regulations.

Generally speaking, white-tailed deer in Texas have fared well in recent years with a stable population of about 4.3 million, according to Alan Cain, TPWD whitetail deer program leader.

“The vast majority of the state had a good habitat conditions going into last winter and early

spring, which helped bucks recover from the rigors of the rut, and gave them a good foundation to start the antler growth cycle this year,” he said.

However, unlike the previous two years where widespread consistent rain and good habitat conditions persisted through the summer for much the state, 2017 saw dry weather patterns take hold in May and continue into late August. These drier conditions late in the season will likely have some impact on final stages of antler development, body weights, and possibly fawn production, Cain explained, but hunters should still expect a good hunting season.

“Dry conditions were not uniform across the state and spotty rains from May through July left patches of green across the landscape in the western two-thirds of the state,” said Cain. “Landowners and hunters with properties lucky enough to receive some of early summer rains and that have remained green may expect better than average deer quality this fall.”

Although rainfall was more consistent in the eastern portion of the state, keeping the habitat in good shape, it was still drier than last year with the exception of southeast Texas where a deluge of rain from Hurricane Harvey left many river and creek bottom habitats flooded for a short term in late August.

“Some adult deer and fawn mortalities were possible due to flooding, but with water receding relatively quickly the vegetation in these bottomland habitat will be able to recover quickly,” Cain reported. “Hunters should be cognizant that deer displaced by the



Local Heroes! The Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department participated in the AWANA Local Hero Night held by Robert Lee Baptist Church. The kids enjoyed the event and we applaud our local heroes for their help in our community.

flooding were forced into upland habitats, increasing deer densities beyond what is normally seen in these areas. As such, hunters might be cautious about over-harvesting deer displaced by flooding.”

Overall, Cain predicts Hurricane Harvey will not have a significant impact on the deer populations in southeast Texas, but hunting conditions may be a little tougher this season with the flush of vegetation growth that will likely occur in the next month or two.

Hunters are reminded of new regulations for the 2017-18 season, including the establishment of chronic wasting disease (CWD) management

zones. Hunters who harvest mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, red deer, or other CWD susceptible species within the Trans-Pecos, Panhandle, and South-Central Texas CWD Containment and Surveillance

Zones are required to bring their animals to a TPWD check station within 48 hours of harvest. TPWD also urges voluntary sampling of hunter harvested deer outside of these zones.

(Continued on next page)

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Mammogram


Do you meet the following:


- Age 40 or older
- Currently uninsured, co-pay of \$100+, or yearly deductible of \$1000+
- West Texas resident
- Typically have a difficulty qualifying for income-based help programs
- 39 and younger if symptomatic

Cervical Exam

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