



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CROW WING COUNTY CONTINUES TO LEAD EFFORTS TO CONTAIN THE SPREAD OF CWD

For the third year in a row Crow Wing County is accepting deer carcasses free of charge at the County Landfill on Highway 210 east of Brainerd to provide a containment option to minimize the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) on the rest of the landscape. There has been one confirmed case of CWD in the wild deer population in Crow Wing County.

CWD is a neurological disease affecting the cervid family – deer, elk, moose, reindeer, and caribou. It causes characteristic spongy degeneration in the brain of an infected animal, which results in their death. It is spread when a cervid comes into contact with prions (defective proteins) from an infected animal. Prions from an infected animal are spread on the landscape through deposits of saliva or other bodily fluids. They are known to survive in the soils for multiple years waiting to infect another cervid.

Crow Wing County is encouraging all hunters to bring their deer carcasses to the Landfill for free disposal. "Please do not throw the carcass into your regular household garbage. Deer carcasses may be incinerated or placed in strategic locations within the Landfill to minimize disposal risk, so it is very important that carcasses are brought in separately from other garbage" stated Ryan Simonson, Environmental Services Supervisor.

Crow Wing County has participated in numerous meetings with the MN Department of Natural Resources, the MN Pollution Control Agency, the MN Board of Animal Health, Conservation Officers, and several local businesses in an effort to better understand the disease and be more proactive to contain the spread. In addition, we are committed to ensuring residents get the best information that research currently offers on this disease.

For more information, visit the Crow Wing County CWD website at: Chronic Wasting Disease | Crow Wing County, MN - Official Website

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping our residents make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Environmental Services Solid Waste Office at (218) 824-1010 or for more information, please visit Crow Wing County's Web site at www.crowwing.us and search for "Solid Waste".

Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.

Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.

Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.