



Jane Doe

Cause of Death: Illegal Feeding by Humans.

White tailed deer are herbivores with a complex digestive system. Their diet consists primarily of twigs, buds, leaves, grasses and acorns. Deer have specialized microorganisms in their stomachs to help digest these coarse foods. If deer are fed human food, it can actually disrupt this balance and cause malnutrition or starvation. Deer that become too persistent (panhandlers) may have to be taken from their home range and relocated. Deer feeding causes some deer to become dependent on humans and unable to find natural foods. If deer are fed repeatedly, they may lose their natural fear of humans. They become lazy and slow which makes them easy targets for poachers and more susceptible to being hit by cars. Deer that become aggressive towards humans are destroyed in order to protect visitors.