



HUNTERS

Are you attracting more than deer with your scents?

Scents and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

What is CWD?

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease affecting Deer, Elk and Moose in some areas of North America. We don't know exactly how, but CWD is transmitted by animal to animal contact. Animals can also get CWD by living in environments where infected animals have lived or died. The infectious material may be passed in feces, urine or saliva and persists in the environment for a very long time by binding to soil.

What does using attractants have to do with CWD?

Scents and attractants used for deer hunting usually contain deer urine but rarely, if ever, say where or how the urine was obtained, and whether the source deer are free of CWD. It is not known if scents containing urine can contaminate the environment with the infectious material that causes CWD, but we do know there is a risk!

What does this have to do with you?

Hunters who use scents to attract deer have a choice! They can use one of two kinds of scents; those that contain deer urine or those that contain synthetic compounds. There doesn't seem to be any difference in performance. To reduce the risk of CWD contaminating the B.C. environment, the B.C. Wildlife Health Program is encouraging hunters to use synthetic products rather than those containing real deer urine. We are also encouraging hunters to support us in asking sporting goods stores to make only these products available to their customers.

B.C. is CWD-free now and we want your help to keep it that way.

Let's keep B.C. wildlife healthy!

For more information please contact the B.C. Wildlife Health Program (250) 953-5140