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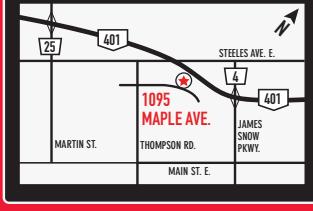
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GUARANTEED  
WORKWEAR  
SINCE 1922

# MNR says locally hunted deer were free of wasting disease

Thanks in part to local hunters the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) was able to test 1,393 deer heads for chronic wasting disease this fall—and found none tested positive.

In southwestern Ontario, which includes Niagara, London, Clinton area and Halton Region, 1,031 deer heads were tested for the fatal disease that is similar to mad cow disease.

In northwestern Ontario, including Fort Frances, Kenora and Dryden, 362 deer heads were tested.

Some facts about the program:

- The ministry relies on hunters to provide samples of deer brain tissue for the surveillance program.

- All the tests were negative. There is no evidence of chronic wasting disease in Ontario's wild deer.

- Chronic wasting disease is a fatal disease affecting members of the deer family.

- The disease has never been found in wild deer or other animals in Ontario but has been identified in western Canada and many American states. While similar to mad cow disease in cattle there is no evidence that chronic wasting disease can be transmitted to humans or to domestic livestock.

- Since 2002 when the MNR began testing for chronic wasting disease, more than 8,400 white-tailed deer have been tested, with all results negative.

## ... and please don't feed them

Although some people enjoy feeding the deer in the winter, the MNR is reminding everyone it's not necessary, and may be doing more harm than good.

- Using the wrong feed can result in digestive problems.

- Feeding may encourage more deer in an area than the habitat can support.

- Deer-vehicle collisions may occur as deer cross roads to and from feeders.

- A concentration of deer around artificial feeders can tempt natural predators of deer such as wolves to change their habits and come closer to populated areas.

- Concentrating deer in an area increases the risk of disease transmission between animals.

- Deer are designed to store fat, reduce their metabolism and successfully process that fat in the winter, while feeding on natural foods according to their daily needs. If deer become dependent on artificial feed their metabolic rate increases and they require more food to survive.

- When artificial feeding stops, deer can die from the resulting stress.

Read more on feeding wildlife at [ontario.ca/wildlife](http://ontario.ca/wildlife).

ClubLink presents...

# Ever After Wedding Show

Sunday, February 20, 2011

Show Hours 11:45 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Visit with many local vendors

Fashions presented by Elizabeths 2:45 to 3:45

Admission \$3 (all proceeds to support local area food banks)



Glencairn Golf Club

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