



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

ROGER BERLINER
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT I

CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 25, 2013

Hon. Jon Jarvis
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Director Jarvis:

We are writing on behalf of our constituents with respect to the deer overpopulation in federal parks located in Montgomery County, Maryland. Deer are posing an increasing danger to motorists and nearby residents. In addition, the deer population is negatively affecting the environmental health of the parks.

Montgomery County has an active deer management program for its public parks but many deer are coming out of federal parks such as the Gold Mine Tract within the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park. It is our understanding that NPS has set up an Ungulate Management Workshop specifically to address this issue.

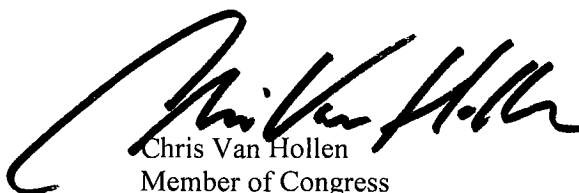
According to the National Environmental Policy Act, any plan will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that can cost in excess of \$450,000. I have been advised by NPS staff that it is possible to complete a modified environmental assessment that can be significantly less expensive.

We ask that NPS expedite the processing of how parks can complete the less costly process as well as provide the C&O Canal NHP with all the necessary tools and resources to properly address this matter. Please advise me in writing of your findings and direct all correspondence to me at the following address:

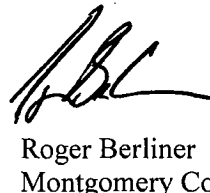
51 Monroe Street, Suite 507
Rockville, MD 20850
FAX: (301) 424-5992

If you need additional information, please contact Alex Wong at (301) 424-3501 or by email at alex.wong@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Roger Berliner
Montgomery County Council