

# 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.

Deerfeeding 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 too persistent (panhandlers) may have to be taken from their home range and relocated.

Deer that become aggressive towards humans are destroyed in order to protect visitors.



Learn the Three Principles of  
**Respect Wildlife**

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing refuse and trash securely.

