

Board of Trustees  
Village of Cayuga Heights  
Marcham Hall  
836 Hanshaw Road  
Ithaca, New York 14850

Dear Trustees:

Under the provisions of the New York Freedom of Information Law, Article 6 of the Public Officers Law, I hereby request a copy of records or portions thereof pertaining to (or containing the following):

1. All communications/correspondence/memos/emails (including all notes regarding conversations in person or by phone or by video chat) from March 23, 2013 to the present between Village officials/Village appointees/Village employees and:

- a) Dr. Paul Curtis and/or colleagues and/or members of his staff/team including but not limited to Jay Boulanger;
- b) Faculty and/or staff members of Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine and/or Lab of Ornithology and/or the Department of Natural Resources, including but not limited to Bernd Blossey;
- c) The Cornell Dean of Faculty and/or members of his staff;
- d) The Dean of Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and/or members of his staff;
- e) The firm White Buffalo and/or any of this firm's staff members and sub-contractors, including but not limited to Anthony DeNicola, and/or any veterinary professionals, and/or other agencies or wildlife management firms or consultants that provide deer culling services, deer population studies, deer sterilization or other similar/related services; and
- f) Tim Miller Associates and/or other environmental consultants/consulting firms.

2. From March 23, 2013 to the present, any Requests for Proposal (RFPs) or draft RFPs, proposals, contracts, reports or communications/correspondence/memos/emails/notes connected with the provision of services by third parties related to deer management in Cayuga Heights or at Cornell University.

3. From March 23, 2013 to the present, records of any funds disbursed for any activities related to deer management in Cayuga Heights or Lansing, at Cornell University, or at any other location.

4. From March 23, 2013 to the present, all documents, correspondence, lists, diagrams, maps and/or analyses connected in any way with the use of land/properties/facilities/structures/locations in and/or around Cayuga Heights for deer management activities.

5. From March 23, 2013 to the present, all communications/correspondence/memos/emails/notes (including all notes regarding conversations in person or by phone or by video chat) between Village officials/Village appointees/Village employees and any third parties, including but not limited to insurance agents/insurance company representatives, safety consultants/experts, mental health consultants/experts, animal science/animal welfare experts/consultants on topics related to:

- a) Deer management activities;
- b) Killing of deer in proximity to homes;
- c) Public safety, legal, financial and physical/mental health risks associated with the carrying out of deer management activities, including but not limited to discharge of weapons in Cayuga Heights;
- d) Potential legal or financial liabilities to individual residents who authorize the use of their property for deer management activities;

e) Use of "net and bolt" or any other alternative to shooting as a method of killing deer;  
f) The possibility or risk of the Village's planned deer management activities violating New York State's animal cruelty statutes and/or measures taken to insure these statutes and other laws/regulations pertaining the humane treatment of animals will be followed.

6. From Jan. 1, 2011 to the present, any documents/materials/applications/reports submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in connection with the village's "deer remediation" plan, including, but not limited to, materials/documents related to the process of applying for/receiving any permits/permission/authorization from the DEC for actions related in any way to deer management, and/or reports associated with such activities.

7. From Jan. 1, 2011 to the present, any permits/permissions/authorizations received from the DEC for actions related in any way to deer management.

8. All documentation detailing and/or referring to the "changes" verbally agreed to in the following phrase (which is found in the document titled Final Summary Report, 2012 Deer Research Program, Village of Cayuga Heights, New York by White Buffalo, Inc., that was posted on the Cayuga Heights village web site):

"We followed the operations protocol outlined in the proposal, contract, and NYSDEC License to Collect and Possess (LCP) deer. **All changes were agreed to verbally prior to the onset of field activities**" [emphasis added]

8. Any documents/communications/correspondence/memos/emails relating to the following statement that was reported in the Aug. 9, 2013 edition of the Lansing Star, including but not limited to documentation of the Cayuga Heights government's alleged funding of Cornell's deer management program, as well as procedures used by Cayuga Heights for sterilization:

"Cayuga Heights has also given funding to the Cornell deer program that will enable them to sterilize ten deer this year instead of just four. Cornell's sterilization program is more costly than Cayuga Heights because of more stringent procedures, but Boulanger says they are lowering some costs this year by using some of the village's techniques, for instance using local anesthesia instead of general anesthesia."

Source: <http://www.lansingstar.com/news-page/9832-cornell-given-deer-hunting-permission-in-the-village-of-lansing#ixzz2fP71Mljh>

9. From Jan. 1, 2013 to the present, all communications/correspondence/memos/emails (including all notes regarding conversations in person or by phone or by video chat) between Village officials/Village appointees/Village employees and any village residents and/or property owners related to the topics of:

a) Deer management

b) [CayugaDeer.org](http://CayugaDeer.org)

c) The Freedom of Information lawsuit brought by petitioner Jenny Stein, and the information that Judge Robert Mulvey ordered to be released.

Under current New York State law, if an agency has the ability to scan records in order to transmit them via email and doing so will not involve any effort additional to an alternative method of responding, it is required to do so. In that instance, transferring a paper record into electronic format would eliminate any need to collect and account for money owed or paid for preparing paper copies, as well as tasks that would otherwise be carried out. In addition, when a paper record is converted into a digital image it remains available in electronic format for future use.

If all the requested records cannot be emailed to me, please inform me by email of the portions that cannot be emailed and advise me of the cost for reproducing the remainder of the records requested. If, for any reason, any portion of my request is denied, please inform me of the reasons for the denial in writing and provide the name and address of the person or body to whom an appeal should be directed.

As you know, the Freedom of Information Law requires that an agency respond to a request within five business days of receipt of a request. Therefore, I would appreciate a response as soon as possible and look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Sincerely,  
James LaVeck  
PO Box 373  
Ithaca, NY 14851  
[contact@cayugadeer.org](mailto:contact@cayugadeer.org)