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Hunters Urged to Donate Deer or Cash for Hungry

Tuesday, 06 September 2011 19:17



The Food Bank for Westchester is asking local deer hunters to donate money or a deer to the Venison Donation Coalition during the 2011 hunting season. Hunters can donate money when purchasing their hunting license or they can donate a deer. Either way, their contribution will help feed hungry New Yorkers.

The Venison Donation Coalition was formed in 1999 to fight hunger by linking hunters and deer processors with food banks. It solicits cash and deer donations to deliver processed venison, a low-fat high-protein meat, to the eight food banks in New York State, including the Food Bank for Westchester. Since its founding, the Venison Donation Coalition has processed 337.51 tons of venison, the equivalent of 2,700,800 meals. This year, the coalition is expecting to process 50 tons of donated deer.

"This is a great way to get high-quality protein to hungry people," said Christina Rohatynskj, Executive Director of the Food Bank for Westchester. "Meats are expensive and often out of reach for many people who are struggling to put food on the table. Last year, we received 15,602 lbs. of venison from this program. We are asking hunters to support the Venison Donation Coalition with a cash or deer donation."

Hunters can donate a deer to a participating processor free of charge -- the recipient Food Bank pays the processing fees. Participating processors can be located on the Venison Donation Coalition website at www.venisondonation.org. There is one processor in Westchester: Amato's in Katonah, (914) 232-4772.

Hunters can also donate money, which the coalition uses to help food banks cover the cost of processing the venison. Cash donations can be made online at the Venison Donation Coalition website; by mailing a check to the Venison Donation Coalition, 415 W. Morris Street, Bath, NY 14810; or when purchasing a hunting or fishing license where those licenses are sold.

The Venison Donation Coalition is a New York State-based not-for-profit organization that coordinates the efforts of hunters, deer processors, food banks, individuals and organizations to provide a high protein, low-fat meat source for the hungry. It collects an average of 38 tons of venison each year that provides approximately 300,000 meals.

Food Bank for Westchester, one of eight food banks in New York State, acquires, warehouses and distributes more than seven million pounds of food annually to over 200 Westchester County hunger-relief organizations, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, day care and residential programs. Its mission is to lead, engage and educate Westchester County in creating a hunger-free environment.

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09/01 - 10/31
Human Services
Workshops/GSS
host various
workshops

09/09
AAARI Tribute and
Remembrance:
Asian Americans
After 9/11 - A
Decade Later

09/10
2011 WALK for
Epilepsy

09/10
Tuesday's Children
Hosts Annual Fall
Gala "Evening of
Light"

09/10
Powermastery
Book Camp
Workshop in NYC

09/10
YCPT Presents
"Helping Hands"

09/13
Hour Children's
Hour Working
Women Program is
hosting a benefit

09/14
NYC LGBT Mental
Health Conference,
E/Quality Care

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