

FIELD TESTS NEWS

Motorists and homeowners in Massachusetts are paying the price for urban and suburban hunting bans—property damage and highway collisions with burgeoning populations of whitetail deer. Some cities are now considering allowing limited hunting to help thin the herds....

● In Chicago, authorities were worried that whoever picked up a deer euthanized after a highway accident would be poisoned by the barbiturate used to kill the animal. After an alert was issued, the deer was turned in—uneaten—to police....

● Alaska has won a conviction in its first poaching case using DNA evidence. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife lab matched Dall sheep meat found at the defendant's home with tissue collected at the illegal kill site....

● Three Rhode Island poachers were charged with game-law violations after one of them accidentally shot his partner. John and Paul Mancini were poaching deer in company with James LaFleur when John fired at what he thought was a deer, hitting LaFleur in the leg. LaFleur survived and is expected to be charged as soon as he gets out of the hospital....

● Associated Press outdoor writer William E. Schulz died of cancer last December at age 53. Over his 20-year career, Schulz received numerous awards, including a national award in March 1996 from Ducks Unlimited for his coverage of wetlands-conservation issues.