



NEWS RELEASE

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Be Aware This is Rut Season for Deer

Los Angeles – What is The Rut?

The Rut refers to the time-frame when a male deer (of any species) is capable of breeding, which is generally accepted as from the time when a male sheds the velvet on its antlers in late summer or early fall, to the time it drops its antlers in winter or early spring; or as the time from when the first female comes into estrous, to the time when most of the females no longer come into estrous. In tropical areas some deer species may have males in hard antler, and be capable of breeding, throughout the entire year, because the females are capable of breeding throughout the year. In North America the white-tailed deer rut does not usually begin before August, nor does it last longer than late February or early March. Here in Los Angeles the rubbing and scraping generally begins from the end of August to the first part of September. And peak breeding in most of these same areas occurs in November, often in mid-November.

Angelenos may see deer more frequently and they may appear distressed or injured. During this time the female deer will often take refuge in a yard to escape the males. In such cases, homeowners should just open a gate to allow the deer to leave. They should also bring their pets indoors. Always leave a large distance between you and a deer in your yard, and make sure there is an open gate for the animal to leave. Deer may bolt into the fence if threatened or charge so use caution. If the animal has been there over 24 hours call your local Animal Control to assist and advise.

Web for online wildlife brochures: http://www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani_wildlife.htm

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at
1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

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