



NEWS RELEASE

JERRY J. OUELLETTE
Member of Provincial Parliament
OSHAWA

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MINISTRY MAKING THOUSANDS OF LAW ABIDING HUNTERS ILLEGAL

*Ouellette exposes MNR flawed map and boundary data in southern Ontario
management units*

Queen's Park – Jerry Ouellette, MPP Oshawa and Official Opposition Natural Resources Critic, questioned Minister of Natural Resources, Donna Cansfield over inaccurate ministerial information being provided to thousands of deer hunters in southern Ontario.

Today in the legislature, Ouellette revealed flawed map and boundary data from the Ministry of Natural Resources which is being provided to deer hunters in numerous wildlife management units in southern Ontario. The erroneous information obtained through the ministry's licensing office could potentially put deer hunters at risk of hunting illegally in improper wildlife management units. "This is shocking news," admitted Ouellette. "Deer hunting season began on Monday in many areas of the province and this misinformation could jeopardize hunters and put them in position of being charged improperly by Conservation Officers as a result of the ministry's own mistake".

The boundary and map information being distributed to individuals purchasing deer licences conflicts with the ministry's 2008 Hunting Regulations Summary. Upon notification of the improper data, Ouellette directly informed the local district office. "I thought I did the right thing, in the best interest of the outdoor community," admitted Ouellette. "There are potentially tens of thousands of individual hunters who could be affected by this ministerial error."

Minister Cansfield acknowledged the seriousness of the error and agreed to immediately look into the matter and inform the ministry's enforcement director to communicate the situation to Conservation Officers in the affected management units.

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