

First Hunting Case in NYC – Deer Poacher Apprehended



The following article was featured in the “International Game Warden” magazine, in the Winter 2014/2015 edition. The picture of NYS ECOs Ed Piwko, Jason Hilliard and Anthony Rigoli was featured on the cover!!

In November, New York State Environmental Conservation Officers Ed Piwko, Jason Hilliard and Anthony Rigoli apprehended a Staten Island man while he was illegally bow hunting deer in Schmul Park behind Fresh Kills landfill in New York City. This man was hunting without a hunting license and with the aid of a

bait pile, both illegal activities in New York State.

The poacher was charged with trespass, hunting over bait, hunting without a license, and feeding deer within 300 feet of a public highway. He was also charged with the illegal take of an antlered deer from last year (a misdemeanor), and failure to properly tag and report the take of that deer. His archery and hunting equipment and the antlers were seized.

This concluded a year-long investigation by the officers into illegal hunting activity in the area, and marks the first apprehension for illegal deer hunting in the recent history of New York City. There is no legal hunting within city limits except by raptor.