



**FRONT PAGE NEWS SPORTS FEATURES ARTS&LEISURE SPECIAL SECTIONS CLASSIFIEDS HOME DELIVERY**

Helena Montana National/World Obituaries Opinions For the Record RSS AP Podcasts Sign up for e-mail notifications

Last 14 days only

Archives

Google

go

advanced search

ANNOUNCING:



TOP JOBS

**MEDICAL BILLING PERSON**

Self Starter

**Part-time School Nurse**

Helena School Dist.

**CARPENTERS & LABORERS**

Needed in Helena, Montana

**JUSTICE COURT CLERK**

Lewis and Clark County

**NETWORK TECHNICIAN**

Morrison - Maierle

More Top Jobs

TOP HOMES



Click Here for all Top Homes

Ads by Google

Text Size: [Small](#) | [Medium](#) | [Large](#)

Other Options: [View / Post Comments](#) | [Email this story](#) | [Print this story](#)

[View Related Headlines](#)

## Deer killed after attack on woman and her dog

By CAROLYNN BRIGHT - IR Staff Writer - 06/15/06

**A game warden shot and killed a mule deer doe Wednesday morning after it attacked a Helena resident and her dog in her yard.**

Randy Arnold, of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, said he was called to an address on the 1100 block of Townsend just after 9 a.m. by the Helena Police Department's animal control officer who responded to a report of an aggressive deer in the area.

When Arnold arrived at the residence, the homeowner explained to him that she had only just put her dog outside when she glanced back and saw a deer kicking and attacking it.

When the woman ran into the yard and tried to intervene, the deer turned on her, kicking her in the stomach and legs.

Arnold said the woman was finally able to grab her dog and run back inside the house, at which time she called police.

By the time Arnold arrived at the address, the deer had wandered into a neighboring yard and was no longer showing signs of aggressive behavior.

"She just seemed to be standing her ground," he said.

Even so, Arnold said he determined that the attack on the homeowner and her pet was of concern, and the deer should be destroyed.

"It's abnormal for a deer to attack a person," said Arnold, adding that it is more common for a deer to become aggressive toward a dog. "But these deer have been living with people for generations."

The game warden said the deer was clearly accustomed to being around people. That, combined with the fact the doe was lactating, resulted in Wednesday's incident, he said.

While Arnold assumes the deer had a fawn hidden in the area — and she probably thought she was defending it from the dog and the homeowner — he was unable to locate the baby after shooting its mother.

Should the fawn be found in coming days, Arnold said, game wardens would have to make a decision about whether to euthanize the animal. He said that likely would be the course of action.

Arnold said this is the time of year that does are having their babies, and it's a good idea for people to give them a wide berth.

Also, he reminded area residents to refrain from touching fawns they might discover hidden in their yards. Generally, the mothers return to care for their young, and hide them only for brief periods of time when they need to be away.

Helena Police Chief Troy McGee said his officers have responded to a few calls in the past couple of weeks about aggressive does, or fawns that appear to have been abandoned by their mothers.

Just last week, officers were called to a home on the 1800 block of Belt View about another doe that had apparently attacked a dog.

**Related  
Headlines:**

- [Reader s Alley](#)
- [Wildfire dominates summer in Helena area](#)
- [In Brief](#)
- [Safe haven](#)
- [Woman convicted of murder in dog maul](#)

**Comments Home page  
Hide comments**

**Aggressive Deer**

TOO bad the woman decided to intervene on her dogs behalf. NOW there is one or more fawns roaming Helena without a mother. WHAT part of this time of year don't people in this town understand. DEER are giving birth in every corner of Helena and us DUMB humans should be weary of them. WHILE delivering newspapers a couple of mornings ago, there was a doe with two fawns standing in the middle of the intersection. As I got closer to the intersection the doe was walking circles around her fawns to protect them. SINCE I'm smart enough to steer clear by taking a course which took me away from them, the doe no longer thought I was a threat to her fawns. LETS NOT FORGET: Wildlife was wandering through Helena long before this city was ever founded. ALSO REMEMBER: The more WE encroach upon their environment, the more they will become part of ours.

Posted by: at 2006-06-15 07:21:32

subject:

name:

email:

\*Required to confirm comment.

An email will be sent to this address for confirmation and a response must be sent before comment goes into approval queue.

message:

The IR welcomes comments of all points of view. We post as many comments as possible unless they are defamatory, in poor taste, contain significant inaccuracies, poetry, or are too long. Please limit comments to 200 words. Writers must include their E-Mail address for verification.



[Advertising Info](#) | [Make us your homepage](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Archives](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Employment Opportunities](#) | [Discover Helena](#)

Copyright © Helena Independent Record; a division of Lee Enterprises  
Copyright © 2006 Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

[Regional Lee Papers](#) | [Butte](#) | [Billings](#) | [Missoula](#) | [The Adit](#) | [Prairie Star](#) | [MT Magazine](#) | [Ravalli](#) | [Bismarck](#)