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To: "ROADWHEELER";
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How to Avoid Motorcycle Deer Collisions

A collision with a deer and a car can be a nasty thing. A collision with a deer and a motorcycle can be a deadly thing. For you.
First let's look at the statistics on this. In Ohio there were 26,000 deer motor vehicle collisions in a year. About 10 fatalities occurred.
The best estimate I came up with was about 382 were motorcycle deer crashes. In Michigan about 4 motorcycle deer crashes result in the death of a motorcyclist a year. So how do we avoid bambi. They seem to be everywhere. How do they get on the expressways. Well many expressways are located next to woodlands.

Let's take a look at deer behavior. The lush roadside grass the highway department mows is a deer favorite. They graze along the road sides mostly inside tree lines. Deers feed at dawn and at dusk . So that's when they are moving about and most likely to be on the sides of the roadway. Deers migrate in the spring and fall and follow the same path. So that's why those deer crossing signs are there. And that's when the deers are most active crossing roads.

Deers seem to react to proximity. Deers usually jump in the direction they are facing then zig-zag. Deers travel in packs of three. Often because twins stick with the mother. Deer D Day is November 17th. That is the day the most deer accidents occur . So the number one strategy is do not ride if you can help it on November 17.

Here is a list of best practice to avoid deer crashes:

1. Avoid riding in the morning or at dusk or later in the evening
2. Avoid riding in the spring or fall. Especially in October or November
3. Scan the roadsides for deer
4. Slow down and cover the brake in areas where the deer may be running
5. Especially heed the deer crossing signs by slowing down and covering the brake
6. If you see a deer slow it way down so you can stop fast
7. If you see a deer up ahead of you cross the roadway look to the area he came from as more deer may be coming that way
8. 8. Get tailgaters off your rear and slow way down and brake hard if you

see a deer.

9. Deers are so unpredictable in the way the move and hop the best strategy is just to break hard
10. Know how to brake hard in an emergency
11. There are also signs that say deer migration for the next x number of miles. Heed and react accordingly.

So right now through November is the worst of deer season. And the worst time is night when you have less of a chance of seeing a deer and braking in time. Not many bikers are going to stop riding on a beautiful fall day. So be ready and scan the edges of the road slow it down and cover the brake.

And boom #&*! You hit a darn deer. Hopefully you do not get hurt . But that's a long shot. If you are hurt, all you can do is use your medical insurance and hopefully you carried medical payments motorcycle insurance to cover any gaps, deductibles and copays in your medical insurance. I recommend at least $5000 in motorcycle medical payments coverage. So that's what covers any medical bills.

As far as your bike's concerned your comprehensive coverage should cover your bike. So call you insurance agent and report the accident. O yeh you can not sue a deer for pain and suffering and no motorcycle insurance covers your pain and suffering or lost wages. So be careful out there RIGHT NOW. AND BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR DEER.

Antony Castelli is a Cincinnati personal injury trial attorney. He has 29 years of experience
in accident injury cases of all kinds. He has tried over 20 civil personal injury jury trials. He
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