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Device to deter deer tested

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SPRINGFIELD, N.J. (AP) — A device using a flashing light and a shrill alarm is being tested on a stretch of road near Fort Dix to see whether it can deter deer.

The devices, installed by Mount Laurel company Jafa Technologies Inc., are activated when the unit senses headlights on an approaching vehicle up to 150 yards away.

Then the device emits a shrill noise and flashes a blue strobe light.

The combination of the light and the sound is designed to keep deer away from the road when a vehicle is approaching.

"What makes this device so much more effective than others is that this can detect headlights before a deer sees them and gets mesmerized," Ed Mulka, project manager for Jafa, told the Courier-Post of Cherry Hill for Sunday's newspapers.

The devices are being installed on a stretch of road near Fort Dix that local officials say has about 60 to 80 accidents a year involving deer.

Springfield Police Chief Kenneth Gerber said there were no deer accidents over a 10-day period after the devices were installed.

Jafa is paying for the cost of installing the 38 devices, which usually cost about \$150 each.

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