

## Field Equipment Checklist

- \_\_\_ 1. Required US Fish & Wildlife Registration
- \_\_\_ 2. Property owner consent form
- \_\_\_ 3. Egg/Nest data sheets (with float test diagram), clipboard, and pencil
- \_\_\_ 4. Two GeesePeace-recommended personal safety shields
- \_\_\_ 5. Face masks/eye protection
- \_\_\_ 6. A new pair of disposable gloves per nest for the egg addler and the guard
- \_\_\_ 7. See-through plastic container of water for the egg float test
- \_\_\_ 8. Paper towels
- \_\_\_ 9. Plastic zip-lock bag with five wooden eggs per nest
- \_\_\_ 10. Hand sanitizer
- \_\_\_ 11. Plastic trash bag
- \_\_\_ 12. Flags to mark off nest areas to be avoided by lawn maintenance
- \_\_\_ 13. If oiling, 100% food grade corn oil
- \_\_\_ 14. If oiling, permanent marker

Each person agrees to participate at their own risk. This publication is a guide. Neither GeesePeace nor any of its partners assumes responsibility for any negligence, environmental variable, animal behavior, or act of God associated with this activity.

See the Bird Flu Safety information in the "Living In Peace With Urban Canada Geese, A Training Class" manual. It is your responsibility to stay informed of any updates regarding bird flu. Refer to the MO Department of Conservation website for updates. [mdc.mo.gov](http://mdc.mo.gov)

GeesePeace St. Louis is dedicated to building better communities by encouraging the use of innovative, effective, and humane methods to prevent and resolve human-goose conflicts in urban environments.



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GeesePeace St. Louis

## Population Stabilization



[www.geesepeacestlouis.org](http://www.geesepeacestlouis.org)

Revised 1/2026

## Field Guide

# GeesePeace Program

The GeesePeace Program consists of four strategies. They are humane Population Stabilization, Site Aversion, Habitat Modification, and Public Education. The effectiveness of the program is dependent on a balance within these strategies that is unique to each site.

## Population Stabilization

The first strategy of humane population stabilization is through the use of wooden replacement eggs. It is important, because it contributes to the long-term reduction in overall numbers of resident geese.

More information on the program can be found on the national GeesePeace website ([geesepeace.com](http://geesepeace.com)).

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### **Before You Go:**

Review Field Equipment Checklist.

Wear appropriate clothing.

### **Safety First!**

Go only as a team, never alone.

## GeesePeace Field Guide Egg Addling Protocol

### Team Member 1 (Guard)

1. Slowly approach nest, holding the shield.
2. Gently, using the shield, protect addler from the male goose (gander). Know what is going on by talking to addler, but do not take your eyes off of gander. Remember – your job is to keep your teammate safe.



3. When addling is complete, slowly back away from nest, still watching approaching geese, until you are safely away from nest site.
4. If nest is in an area that is mowed, use flags to mark off large safety area around nest (15-20 feet away).
5. Record data on Egg Addling Data Sheet.

### Team Member 2 (Addler)

1. Put on gloves.
2. Approach nest with water container and wooden eggs.
3. Use shield to gently urge mother goose off of nest.
4. Perform the "float test." Test two of the eggs (choose the darkest color) by placing them in water.
5. If either egg floats, do not replace eggs. (Refer to float illustration in separate *handout*.) Place eggs back in nest (do not dry the eggs), and retreat from nest.
6. If either egg is in Stages 1-3 on the illustration, remove all eggs in the nest and place in trash bag.
7. Replace eggs in nest with all five wooden replicas, or mark and oil them.
8. Collect materials around nest site and retreat.
9. By federal law you may not give away eggs; they must be disposed of by incineration, burial, or trash. Crush the eggs in trash bag and properly dispose.

