

More Information

Nest Management

GeesePeace St. Louis

geesepeacestlouis.org

314-567-2081

You can also purchase wooden eggs and netted shields from us, if you choose to manage nests yourself, and we will instruct you on their use. Contact us for more information.

Humane Wildlife Solutions LLC

humanewildlifesolutionsllc.com

314-567-2060

Humane Goose Management

314-828-6621

Natural Landscaping*

Missouri Botanical Garden

missouribotanicalgarden.org

See *Gardens & Gardening*

Sustainable Gardening –

Lawn, Landscape, and Garden Design

(Or, search *Native Landscaping Manual*)

Grow Native!

grownative.org

Includes online and printed business

Resource Guide

Waterfowl Emergencies

Wildlife Rescue Center

mowildlife.org

636-394-1880

* We have no affiliation with these businesses and are not endorsing any companies they may suggest. We are merely providing landscaping ideas and possibilities for you to explore.

What is GeesePeace St. Louis?

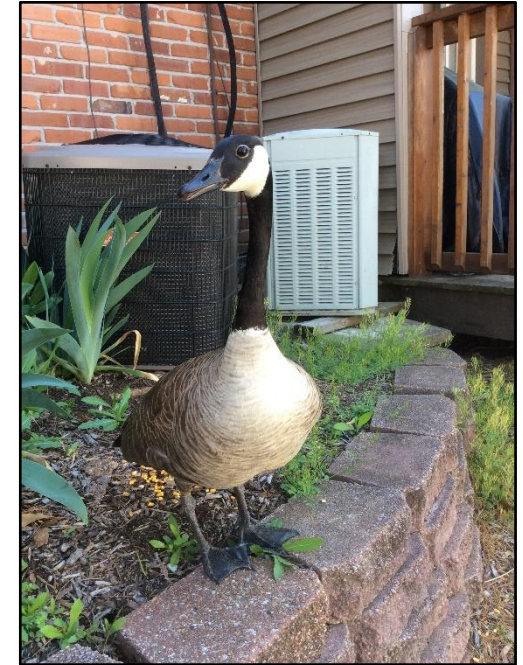
GeesePeace St. Louis is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit all-volunteer organization. We work under a permit from the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and in cooperation with the Humane Society of MO and the MO Wildlife Rescue Center in Ballwin. Our program follows protocol developed by the Humane Society of the United States. Our mission is to build better communities by using effective and humane solutions to resolve conflicts with our native resident Canada geese. We have been serving the St. Louis metro area since 2001.

Contact Information

Voicemail – 314-567-2081

www.geesepeacestlouis.org

Property Owners/Managers

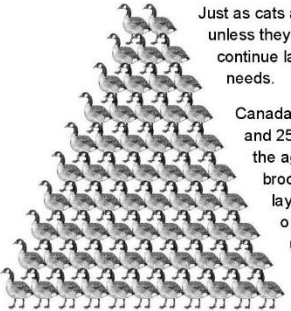


Why You Should Consider

Humane Nest Management for Canada Geese

Liability

If you own or manage property used by the public, you are aware of your responsibility to maintain a safe environment. The reality of goose overpopulation includes the potential for accidents. In addition to the slip hazard of feces, geese are famous for their defense of nest sites. The gander (male goose) will do whatever it takes to protect his nest, his mate, and his offspring. This can lead to any number of dangerous situations. It is in your best interest to avoid problems by *preventing* them. The first step is to *limit the population through humane nest management*.



Just as cats and dogs can multiply exponentially, unless they are spayed or neutered, geese will continue laying eggs in an area that fits their needs.

Canada geese can live anywhere between 10 and 25 years, and produce offspring from the age of 2 until 15 years. The average brood is 5 or 6 eggs, but they can easily lay 10 or 12. If the conditions are right – open body of water, with an unobstructed view of the surroundings, and food source – they will keep coming back to nest.

Many business complexes, condominiums, apartments, and golf courses provide the perfect spot to raise young. If left unchecked, you can end up with a population explosion.

Effectiveness of Nest Management

Humane nest management is a long-term, proven effective method of reducing, then stabilizing, goose populations. Replacing already laid

eggs with wooden ones will keep new geese from hatching. We have seen how effective these methods are in years to come. This protocol is approved by the MO Wildlife Rescue Center, Humane Society of MO, and Humane Society of the United States.

| Year | Number of Nests | Number of Eggs |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 2013 | 8 | 52 |
| 2014 | 7 | 35 |
| 2015 | 4 | 27 |
| 2016 | 4 | 26 |
| 2017 | 3 | 17 |
| 2018 | 4 | 26 |
| 2019 | 4 | 27 |
| 2020 | 3 | 18 |
| 2021 | 4 | 20 |
| Total | 41 | 248 |

This table is the accounting of nests handled and eggs replaced at a business complex in St. Louis. This includes eggs replaced, combined with deterrent practices. If left unchecked, the total number of nests and eggs would have been substantially higher.

Modifying the landscape, so geese find your property less inviting, is another important step. Adding native grasses and other plants can deter geese from nesting, while increasing the natural beauty of the surroundings.

The Alternatives are Short-Term and Costly

Too often people go for a quick-fix, which is rarely a long-term solution.

Taking matters into your own hands by shooting, poisoning, or relocating is not only inhumane, it is illegal. Canada geese are a federally protected species.

Roundups (slaughters) are an **expensive**, cruel, and controversial **temporary** alternative. It involves trapping the geese at their most vulnerable stage – while molting. During their molt geese cannot fly, so they cannot escape. They are loaded onto trucks and taken to slaughter. Any goslings (very young geese) are taken separately to an undisclosed site and left to fend for themselves. Many do not survive.

This process always takes place in the early hours of the morning, when no one is around to witness it. Property owners may try to mitigate the bad PR by claiming the meat goes to food pantries. However, it is hardly charitable to dump old goose meat (from birds who have been eating chemical laden grass), onto the disadvantaged.

Unless the conditions that welcomed these geese in the first place are altered, the void will be filled by new geese, and the cycle begins again.

(See helpful information on the next page.)