Canada Goose Management Program Changes



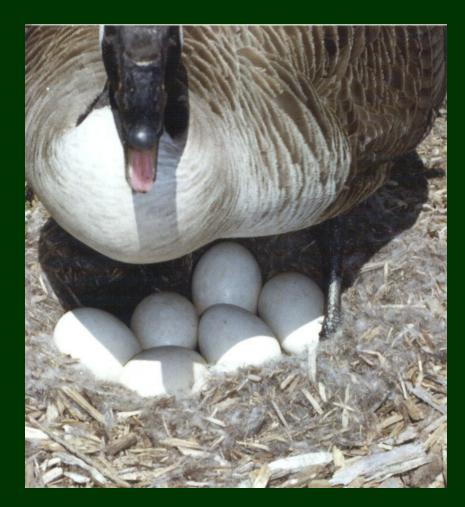
Barbara Avers, PhD, Waterfowl and Wetland Specialist



₽

Background

- Extinct around 1900
- Reintroduced in 1960's
- Population goal is 175,000 to 225,000
 - About 281,000 today
- Thriving in urban and suburban settings
- Increasing conflicts
 - Droppings, feathers, aggression, etc.
- Management strategies
 - Hunting
 - Techniques to manage local conflicts





Canada Goose Management Program

- Addressing conflicts for over 50 years
 - Procedures and permit issuance
 - Nest/egg destruction and round up and relocation or euthanasia
- Federal Special Canada Goose Permit







Issues

- Increased nuisance complaints and health and safety issues
- Challenges to managing conflicts:
 - Federal protections
 - Disease concerns (e.g., HPAI)
 - Municipal development and ordinances limit hunting opportunities
 - Reduced human tolerance of geese





Ē

Issues

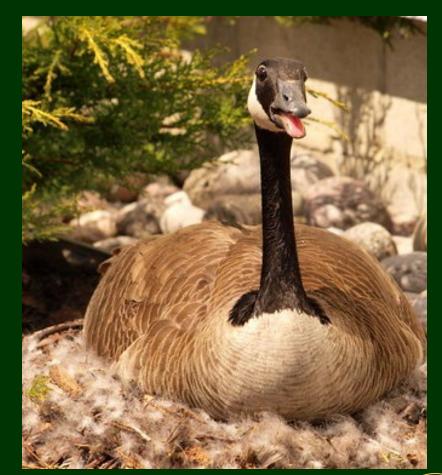
- Relocation of geese not sustainable:
 - Lack of suitable release sites
 - Moving location of conflicts
 - Disease transmission concerns (HPAI)
 - Short-term effectiveness of round up





Nest & Egg Destruction Changes for 2025

 Permit nest/egg destruction statewide





Round Up & Relocation Changes for 2025

Round up allowed in limited situations

- Approved situations where there are human health/safety concerns
- Meet other criteria

No relocation

• All birds euthanized and either disposed of or processed for donation to charitable organizations

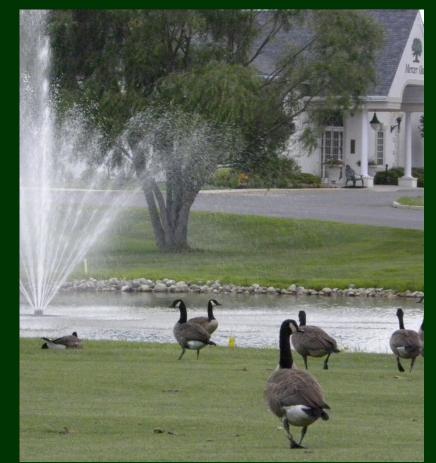




Round Up & Relocation Changes for 2025

USDA-WS will conduct all round up

- Efficiency due to logistics
- Build into agency agreements
- Process to donate meat to charitable organizations
- Modeled after other states' programs
- 2025 pilot program to assess costs, logistics, capacity, etc.





WCO Changes

- Remove language allowing round up and relocation (transportation) by sites and nuisance animal control operators
- Include language to allow nuisance animal control operators to capture, hold, and euthanize aggressive geese





WCO Changes

- Reduce permit fee from \$200 to \$100 for nuisance animal control operators to participate in capture, holding, and euthanizing aggressive Canada geese and the destruction of nests and eggs.
- Remove the \$300 permit fee for a site permit to participate in the transport of Canada geese
- Remove the \$300 permit fee for nuisance animal control operators to transport geese





Thank You



Michigan.gov/Waterfowl

