

Repellents

The chemical methyl anthranilate, which is used as flavoring in grape soda, is now approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a repellent for Canada geese on lawns and golf courses. This chemical causes a harmless irritation in a goose's throat and nasal cavities. However, it is relatively expensive and must be reapplied frequently.

Prevent reproduction

If you have tried the methods listed above and they haven't solved the problem, the next step is to apply for a federal permit to addle or coat the eggs with oil to prevent hatching.

Applications for permits and instructions are available from Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services.

Roundup and removal

Currently, APHIS and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service are working together to find solutions for dealing with severe goose problems in which the above methods have failed and public health and safety are jeopardized.

One method currently being used as a last resort in Washington, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan is round-up and removal. The geese are collected and humanely euthanized.

Why relocation doesn't work

Many people who have problems with geese near their homes want the birds moved to another area. Because geese are migratory, they usually return after they are moved, so the time and expense of relocating them are wasted.

Years ago when Canada geese weren't as numerous as today, wildlife managers successfully relocated young geese because they imprinted on the new area. However, this is no longer an option because most areas in the United States that can support geese already have large populations.

For more information:

USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services
State Office

720 O'Leary St., NW
Olympia, WA 98502
360/753-9884

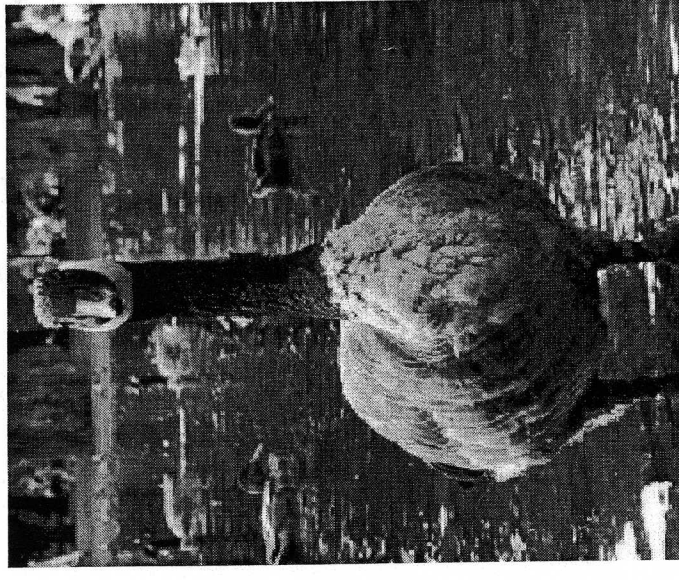
USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services
District Office

10275-B Central Valley Rd., NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370
360/337-2778

USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services
District Office

3080 Bell Road, Suite B
Moses Lake, WA 98837
509/765-7962

Living near geese



Tips on keeping resident Canada Geese from becoming a nuisance in your neighborhood



USDA

