

**TOWN OF LAKESHORE**

**POLICY MANUAL**

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**EFFECTIVE DATE:**           **October 25, 2005**

**SUBJECT:**                   **Geese Management Program**

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The Town Of Lakeshore has chosen to take an active role in alleviating human/goose conflicts by providing direction to private property owners and municipal employees.

Geese management techniques are chosen on a site specific basis. What works well at one site, may not have the same effect at another. Therefore the following will be a guideline for dealing with geese in an urban setting:

**Landowner's Role**

1. To allow the grass adjacent to the river, pond or lake grow longer or plant course, tall grasses, shrubs and/or wildflowers that are less appealing to geese.
2. To obstruct the access to the river, pond or lake by installing low fences or rock walls.
3. To disturb the geese as soon as they arrive to deter them from nesting. There are various scare tactics which include noisemakers, strobe lights, recorded distress calls and use of trained dogs. Landowners should vary and combine scare tactics to ensure the geese do not adapt to the disturbance.

Landowners must understand that it is illegal to disturb, damage or destroy an established nest. For further information on hunting and the preservation of migrating birds you are welcome to contact Canadian Wildlife Services at [www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca](http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca).

## **Municipality's Role**

The geese problem exists on private properties and the municipality has no authorization to enter onto the private lands to manage the geese population. Administration should review the site to ensure the property owners have implemented the techniques to deter geese from the community.

1. To receive a petition from the community stating that the geese population is overwhelming and causing safety and health concerns.
2. To obtain a permit from the Canadian Wildlife Services to allow the sterilization the eggs by coating the eggs with oil or shaking the eggs.  
***This should be a last resort to deal with this situation.***
3. To implement a program to reduce the population by oiling techniques and/or relocating geese to a suitable habitat.