

EECI Canada Goose Control Program

Canada Geese are extremely active during the fall and winter months in Delmarva, with as many as 1 million birds over-wintering on the Peninsula. Also compounded with a native nuisance non-migratory population that has been determined to be invasive. While beautiful, these birds can severely degrade a stormwater pond, impoundments and/or waterway. One goose can produce over one (1) pound of feces a day, which is high in nutrients, harmful bacteria, and is extremely aesthetically degrading. Geese can also damage turf and installed vegetation.



Envirotech Environmental Consulting, Inc. (EECI) offers a variety of non-lethal stress deterrents that are cost effective and efficient for Canada Goose control. These methods are to help prevent and discourage heavy goose populations in your pond, impoundments, or open space areas. These methods can be tailored specifically for your situation.

Non-Lethal Goose Deterrents

- ▶ **Monofilament Grids ("Mono Grids")** Our most popular method of migratory goose prevention for ponds is over-water Monofilament Grids installed approximately 1-2 feet above the surface. These deterrents, also known as "mono grids," are inconspicuous to humans while creating obstacles in the water-body that would otherwise serve as runways or landing strips for flocks of migrating geese. Waterfowl see a different wavelength than humans, so the lines are easily perceived. If we can prevent them from landing in our ponds, the likelihood of the birds to take up residency and cause significant damage is greatly reduced.
- ▶ **Flight Control Max** Flight Control® Max is a liquid goose repellent spray for use on turf. It will humanely and effectively move geese away from your property. We use Flight Control Max to relocate geese to feeding and nesting grounds away your property. Unlike decoys, lasers, or noise making devices, Flight Control® Max will give you long term relief. As long as it is present on the grass, the geese will avoid feeding on it.

Impacts of Resident Geese

- ▶ **Economic Impacts** - Resident geese are a particular concern in the agriculture industry. Grasses and grains like soybeans, corn and wheat are favorite foods of resident geese. Geese and airports don't mix! Between 1990 and 2000, Canada geese were implicated in 505 strikes causing damage to civil aircraft. Each year, bird strikes cause \$350 million in damages.
- ▶ **Health Risks** - Bacteria in goose droppings may harm water quality in ponds, lakes, and reservoirs. Resident geese have tested positive for the West Nile Virus, a mosquito-born pathogen that causes flu-like symptoms in humans.
- ▶ **Property Damage** - Goose droppings are rich in phosphorous and nitrogen. Not only may a large flock of geese over-fertilize lawns, they can also increase nutrient runoff and algae growth in ponds and lakes. Parks, manmade wetlands, and golf courses provide favorable habitat for resident geese, but large gaggles graze heavily on grass and aquatic plants, up-rooting vegetation which increases maintenance costs.