



Canada Geese: Prevention Tips

Canada geese are considered to be majestic creatures. Unfortunately, the droppings they leave behind and their aggressive behavior can have a negative impact on your business. Use these tips to protect your business and maintain a harmonious relationship with geese.

Where you might see them

- Congregating in expansive open spaces, such as golf courses, green spaces, or parking lots.
- Areas that provide easy access to water features.
- Grazing on grass – anywhere with grassy vegetation is a prime habitat.

Tips for prevention

- Educate guests, employees, and residents not to feed geese. Install signage if necessary.
- Geese will return to the same areas annually to nest and feed. Deterring them early will help to reduce activity on your property.
- Canada geese are federally protected; any management efforts outside of landscape modification must be conducted by a licensed professional.

- Geese like to have a clear line of sight to their surroundings. Deter geese from landing by building hedges around ponds.
- Ponds and man made water features with low sloping banks make it easy for geese to wade in and out. Construct water features with steeper banks to make it difficult for geese to access.
- Keep grass long, between 6 and 8 inches in height. Shorter grass is more appealing to feed on.
- Ask your pest or wildlife management professional about the feasibility of conducting turf treatments, behavior modification efforts, or implementing deterrent barrier systems.
- Droppings left by geese can contaminate water, over fertilize vegetative areas, and create slip and fall hazards. If you have a goose problem, consider hiring a company to clean up after the birds.



ID and biology

- Adults have a brown body, white underbelly, black neck, white “chin,” and black beak.
- Males weigh 6 to 15 pounds, females weigh 5 to 12 pounds.
- Mate and nest from February to May and can be extremely aggressive during this time.
- August through January is when geese migrate and look for places to nest.
- Goslings are yellow and fuzzy when first born.

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