



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western
Reserve Road
Building 1
Poland, OH 44514

(330) 726-3386
FAX: (330) 726-3318

July 1, 2015

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Avery,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese. Between 15 April and 31 May 2015, WS conducted a total of 6 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks property. Wildlife Services and Mill Creek MetroParks personnel worked to addle Canada goose eggs at 6 different sites located on park-owned property. Egg addling was conducted in accordance with the approved 2015 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained the MetroParks. Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at the Mill Creek Metroparks exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a round up of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. It should be expected that the 2014 round up would have a direct effect on the number of nests located and treated due to a reduced nesting goose population.

In total, WS located 40 nests (Figure 1) and treated 173 eggs during the 2015 nesting season. When compared to 2014 efforts, the number of goose nests located and eggs treated in 2015 was lower at every site except for the Wildlife Sanctuary (Table 1). This is likely a direct result of the removal efforts conducted in 2014. There was a reduction of 22% in the number of nests located and a 41% reduction in the number of eggs treated at the Newport Wetland site. No nests were located by at the Lily Pond, Lake Cohasset and Lake Glacier sites. Although no nests were located at these 3 sites it is estimated that there was 2-4 successful clutches at the Lake Glacier site. Wildlife Services observed up to 12 goslings feeding near the water with adult geese at the Lake Glacier site. It is believed that these geese were nesting in the woods across W. Glacier Dr. on the west side of the lake. In future years, egg addling efforts should be directed to include this area for nest searches, along with the more common shore line searching.

The only site with an increase in the number of nest locations and eggs treated was the Wildlife Sanctuary. The number of nests located increased by 250% and the number of eggs treated went up by 375%. No removal efforts were conducted at this site in 2014. At the Wildlife Sanctuary, thick vegetation and nesting on small islands made it more difficult to locate nesting birds. Walking the dikes between the impoundments is not a sufficient method to locate the nests at this site. If egg addling efforts are to be continued at this site, a more complete search of each of the water impoundments is needed to ensure the most successful outcome. This could be accomplished by starting nest searches at earlier time and using a kayak to thoroughly access each impoundment.



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Table 1. A comparison of the number of Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*) nests located and the number of eggs treated on Mill Creek MetroParks owned and managed property, 2012-2015.

Year	2012		2013		2014		2015	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	21	77	34	164	37	201	29	124
Lily Pond	1	5	0	0	3	15	0	0
Lake Cohasset	0	0	0	0	6	30	0	0
Lake Glacier	0	0	0	0	2	10	0	0
Wildlife Sanctuary	3	12	2	2	4	12	10	45
Other**	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Total	25	94	36	166	52	268	40	173

** A Canada goose nest was treated at a Mill Creek MetroParks maintenance building that is not depicted on the included map.



Figure 1 A map illustrating the 2015 locations (red dots) of treated Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*) nests at the Newport Wetlands and Wildlife Sanctuary sites.

Because the habitat features that attracted geese to MetroParks properties remain, it is reasonable to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommend that to reduce Canada goose damage the following methods be continued or

implemented as part of an Integrated Canada Goose Damage Management Plan at your location:

- Any feeding of geese or other waterfowl by the public must be discontinued immediately. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited should be posted in public or common areas. If individuals in the area continue feeding geese it is recommended that park laws or by-laws be changed so that enforcement can take place. If laws or by-laws already exist it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish themselves in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so the MetroParks should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at the above number.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada geese nests (*Branta canadensis*) treated by Wildlife Services, 15 April-31 May 2015.

<u>Waypoint</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
NW01	41.05077	-80.67773
NW02	41.05200	-80.67623
NW03	41.05300	-80.67699
NW04	41.05437	-80.67842
NW05	41.05453	-80.67857
NW07	41.05410	-80.67877
NW08	41.05394	-80.67849
NW09	41.05383	-80.67833
NW10	41.05396	-80.67828
NW11	41.05410	-80.67843
NW12	41.05462	-80.67733
NW13	41.05447	-80.67718
NW14	41.05433	-80.67690
Maint01	41.08896	-80.70276
NW16	41.05338	-80.67708
NW17	41.05352	-80.67701
NW18	41.05307	-80.67632
NW19	41.05295	-80.67604
NW20	41.05450	-80.67668
NW21	41.05376	-80.67696
NW22	41.05414	-80.67750
NW23	41.05423	-80.67709
NW24	41.05431	-80.67731
NW25	41.05439	-80.67741
NW26	41.05380	-80.67748
NW27	41.05319	-80.67665
NW29	41.05407	-80.67691
NW30	41.05442	-80.67708
NW31	41.05457	-80.67695
NW33	41.05439	-80.67739
SAN4	40.97548	-80.69403
SAN11	40.97836	-80.69272
SAN12	40.97826	-80.69246
SAN13	40.97823	-80.69237
SAN141	40.97841	-80.68966
SAN15	40.97805	-80.68968
SAN16	40.97784	-80.68968
SAN18	40.97684	-80.68964
SAN7	40.97888	-80.69226
SAN9	40.97718	-80.69632



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July 12, 2016

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Avery,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta Canadensis*). Between 30 March and 25 May 2016, WS conducted a total of 7 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at 6 different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2016 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by the MetroParks.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at the Mill Creek Metroparks exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a round up of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 69 nests (**Figures 1; 2; 3**) and treated 363 eggs during the 2016 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each treated nest (**Attachment 1**). Multiple banded birds were observed. Banding numbers that were visible were submitted to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for banding data (**Attachment 2**). There was an average of 5.26 eggs/nest. Generally, 3-4 goslings in a brood will reach flight stage. Factoring in the 363 eggs that WS treated, it is estimated that 207 to 276 flight stage Canada geese were prevented from entering the population on Mill Creek MetroParks property. When compared to 2015 efforts, the number of goose nests located and eggs treated in 2016 was higher at every site (**Table 1**). This is likely a result of the mild winter and favorable weather conditions during nesting season. There was a 21% increase in the number of nests located and a 44% increase in the number of eggs treated at the Newport Wetland site. No nests were located at Lily Pond and Lake Cohasset sites. There were 2 nests located and 11 eggs treated at Lake Glacier which was an increase from 2015 when no nests were located. Three separate pairs of geese with varying numbers of goslings were observed at Lake Glacier post egg adding efforts. Specific attention was given to the wooded area across West Glacier Drive on the west side of the lake because WS suspected nesting activity occurred there in 2015. It is believed that the geese with goslings observed in this area had come in from surrounding private properties. There was a 210% increase in the number of nests located and a 271% increase in the number of eggs treated at the Wildlife Sanctuary site. The use of a kayak to access each impoundment allowed for greater goose nest locating success rates. Small islands with thick vegetation, which provide favorable nesting habitat, were more accessible and allowed for WS to better investigate likely nesting sites. Early detection was important as emergent vegetation made access with the kayak more difficult later in the season.



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Table 1. A comparison of the number of Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on Mill Creek MetroParks owned and managed property, 2013-2016.

Year	2013		2014		2015		2016	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	34	164	37	201	29	124	35	179
Lily Pond	0	0	3	15	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	0	0	6	30	0	0	0	0
Lake Glacier	0	0	2	10	0	0	2	11
Wildlife Sanctuary	2	2	4	12	10	45	31	167
Other**	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	6
Total	36	166	52	268	40	173	69	363

** A Canada goose nest was treated at a Mill Creek MetroParks maintenance building that is not depicted on the included maps.



Figure 1. Canada goose nest treatment locations (yellow dots) at the Newport Wetlands site, 2016.



Figure 2. Canada goose nest treatment locations (yellow dots) at the Lake Glacier site, 2016.



Figure 3. Canada goose nest treatment locations (yellow dots) at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2016.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MetroParks properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so the MetroParks should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 30 March-25 May 2016. (NW=Newport Wetlands; SAN=Wildlife Sanctuary; MG=Maintenance Garage; GL=Lake Glacier)

<u>ID Number</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
NW1	41.050738	-80.677765
NW2	41.052881	-80.676411
NW3	41.053328	-80.676718
NW4	41.053388	-80.676039
NW5	41.054514	-80.676689
NW6	41.054099	-80.677465
NW7	41.054160	-80.677523
NW8	41.053090	-80.677112
NW9	41.054169	-80.678359
NW10	41.054401	-80.678439
NW11	41.054519	-80.678626
NW12	41.054439	-80.677428
NW13	41.054360	-80.676890
NW14	41.054630	-80.677080
NW15	41.054200	-80.678240
NW16	41.054340	-80.678800
NW17	41.053930	-80.678500
NW18	41.053780	-80.677520
NW19	41.052200	-80.675540
NW20	41.054090	-80.678790
NW21	41.054410	-80.677090
NW22	41.050550	-80.675740
NW23	41.053170	-80.676530
NW24	41.053010	-80.676090
NW25	41.053270	-80.676090
NW26	41.053360	-80.677090
NW27	41.054180	-80.677540
NW28	41.054100	-80.677470
NW29	41.054530	-80.678600
NW30	41.053970	-80.678270
NW31	41.054110	-80.676940
NW32	41.050780	-80.680190
NW33	41.054500	-80.677220
NW34	41.054700	-80.677190
NW35	41.052030	-80.675500
SAN1	40.978260	-80.689670
SAN2	40.976950	-80.689640
SAN3	40.976310	-80.696040
SAN4	40.978820	-80.695110
SAN5	40.978290	-80.692600
SAN6	40.978320	-80.692560

<u>ID Number</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
SAN7	40.978120	-80.689670
SAN8	40.977600	-80.689650
SAN9	40.977280	-80.689630
SAN10	40.976600	-80.693980
SAN11	40.977440	-80.696000
SAN12	40.979390	-80.695080
SAN13	40.978930	-80.695250
SAN14	40.978230	-80.692400
SAN15	40.978060	-80.692180
SAN16	40.977840	-80.689650
SAN17	40.976700	-80.689610
SAN18	40.976200	-80.693500
SAN19	40.975050	-80.691550
SAN20	40.974630	-80.691640
SAN21	40.979320	-80.693310
SAN22	40.979190	-80.689670
SAN23	40.978400	-80.692760
SAN24	40.978430	-80.689670
SAN25	40.977470	-80.691750
SAN26	40.976780	-80.689620
SAN27	40.977360	-80.689620
SAN28	40.977230	-80.689630
SAN29	40.977780	-80.689640
SAN30	40.978280	-80.692470
SAN31	40.977930	-80.689650
MG1	41.088710	-80.702500
GL1	41.100810	-80.671930
GL2	41.091680	-80.675610

Attachment 2. Banding information from banded waterfowl species viewed on MetroParks properties during Canada goose egg/nest treatment.

1038-33376 = Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/26/2008

Banding Location: KENSINGTON, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2008

Sex: FEMALE

1078-42108 = Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/20/2012

Banding Location: PETERSBURG, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2012

Sex: FEMALE

1038-33448 = Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/26/2008

Banding Location: AUSTINTOWN, MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: HATCHED IN 2007 OR EARLIER

Sex: FEMALE

95v = Species: Great Egret

Date banded: 06/26/2014

Banding Location: COLLINGWOOD, ONTARIO, CANADA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2014

Sex: UNKNOWN

Leg Band Number: 1987-17219



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590 E. Western
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FAX: (330) 726-3318

June 26, 2017

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Avery,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between 22 March and 25 May 2017, WS conducted a total of 8 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at 5 different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2017 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by the MetroParks.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at the Mill Creek Metroparks exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 53 nests (**Figures 1 - 4**) and treated 242 eggs during the 2017 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each marked/treated nest (**Attachment 1**). During the course of the treatment, multiple banded resident birds were observed. Banding numbers that were visible were submitted to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for banding data (**Attachment 2**). There was an average of 4.56 eggs/nest. Generally, 3-4 goslings in a brood will reach flight stage. Based on the number of eggs and nests that WS treated, we estimate that 159 to 212 flight stage Canada geese were prevented from entering the population on Mill Creek MetroParks property. When compared to the 2013-2016 efforts, the total number of goose nests located and eggs treated in 2017 did not differ from the 4-year average (**Table 1**). However, there was a 20% decrease in the number of nests located and a 36% decrease in the number of eggs treated at the Newport Wetland site from 2016. Additionally, there was a 35% decrease in the number of nests located and eggs treated at the Wildlife Sanctuary from 2016. No nests were located at Lily Pond. Two nests were located and five eggs treated at Lake Cohasset, which is an increase from zero last year. There were two nests located and 13 eggs treated at Lake Glacier, which was similar to the results from 2016. Overall, WS treated approximately 25% fewer nests and eggs than last year. This decrease may indicate that some pairs identified treated sites as poor nesting locations, and chose to nest elsewhere off MetroParks property.



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Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MetroParks properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so the MetroParks should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on Mill Creek MetroParks owned and managed property, 2013-2017.

Year	2013-2016 AVG		2016		2017	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	34	167	35	179	28	114
Lily Pond	1	4	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	1.5	7.5	0	0	2	5
Lake Glacier	1	5	2	11	2	13
Wildlife Sanctuary	12	56.5	31	167	20	111
Other**	0.5	2.5	1	6	1	6
Total	49.3	242.5	69	363	53	242

** A Canada goose nest was treated at a Mill Creek MetroParks maintenance building that is not depicted on the included maps.



Figure 1. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Newport Wetlands site, 2017.



Figure 2. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Lake Glacier site, 2017.

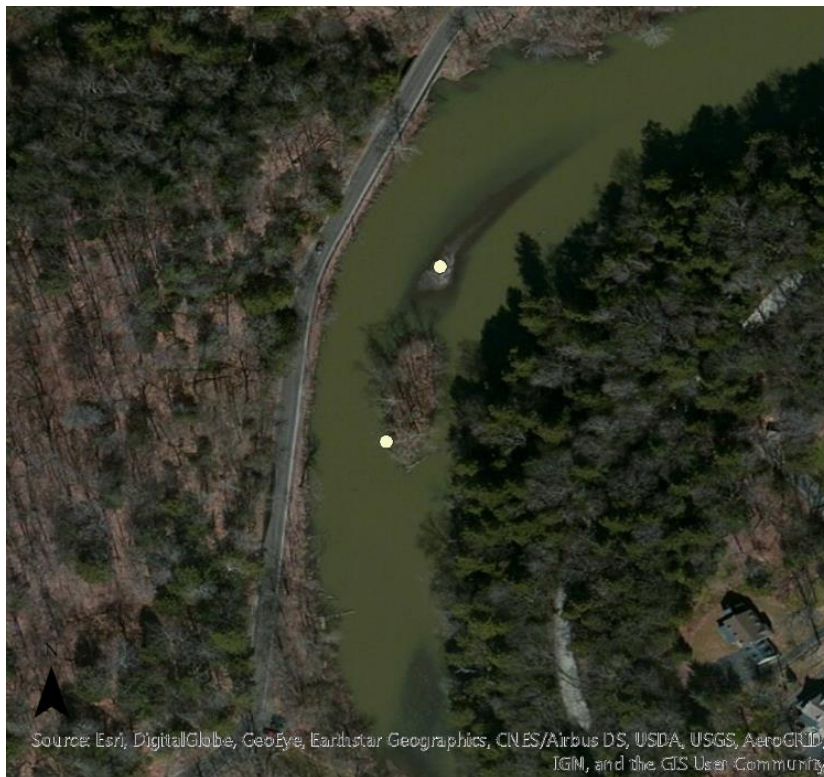


Figure 3. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Lake Cohasset site, 2017.



Figure 4. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2017.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 22 March-25 May 2017. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; C=Lake Cohasset; MG=Maintenance Garage; G=Lake Glacier)

<u>ID</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
N01	41.0508	-80.6777
N04	41.0541	-80.6775
N06	41.0545	-80.6767
N07	41.0532	-80.6761
N08	41.0534	-80.6772
N09	41.0542	-80.6784
N10	41.0544	-80.6785
N11	41.0545	-80.6786
N12	41.0546	-80.6786
N13	41.0543	-80.6787
N14	41.054	-80.6786
N15	41.054	-80.6783
N16	41.0545	-80.6772
N17	41.0544	-80.6774
N18	41.0527	-80.6761
N19	41.0535	-80.677
N20	41.054	-80.6773
N21	41.0541	-80.6785
N22	41.0541	-80.6788
N23	41.0546	-80.6771
N24	41.0543	-80.6769
N25	41.054	-80.6757
N26	41.0522	-80.6756
N27	41.0529	-80.6764
N28	41.0538	-80.6775
N29	41.0529	-80.6765
N30	41.0522	-80.6756
N41	41.0546	-80.6774

Attachment 1 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 22 March-25 May 2017. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; C=Lake Cohasset; MG=Maintenance Garage; G=Lake Glacier)

<u>ID</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
S04	40.9767	-80.694
S05	40.9772	-80.696
S06	40.9773	-80.696
S07	40.9775	-80.6962
S08	40.9783	-80.6926
S09	40.9775	-80.6918
S10	40.9781	-80.6897
S11	40.9778	-80.6897
S12	40.9776	-80.6897
S13	40.9774	-80.6896
S14	40.9772	-80.6896
S15	40.9768	-80.6896
S16	40.9781	-80.6922
S17	40.9784	-80.6897
S18	40.9788	-80.6952
S19	40.9793	-80.6952
S20	40.979	-80.6953
S21	40.9784	-80.6928
S22	40.9782	-80.6924
S23	40.9751	-80.6916
C01	41.0785	-80.6881
C02	41.0779	-80.6883
G01	41.1008	-80.672
G02	41.0941	-80.6759
MG01	41.0887	-80.7025

Attachment 2. Banding information from banded waterfowl species viewed on MetroParks properties during Canada goose egg/nest treatment.

1038-33376

Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/26/2008

Banding Location: KENSINGTON, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2008

Sex: FEMALE

1078-42108

Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/20/2012

Banding Location: PETERSBURG, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2012

Sex: FEMALE

1038-33448

Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 06/26/2008

Banding Location: AUSTINTOWN, MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: HATCHED IN 2007 OR EARLIER

Sex: FEMALE

1038-33393

Species: Large Canada Goose

Date banded: 6/26/2008

Banding location: KENSINGTON, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA

Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2008

Sex: FEMALE



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western
Reserve Road
Building 1
Poland, OH 44514

(330) 726-3386
FAX: (330) 726-3318

June 19, 2018

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Avery,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between 20 March and 23 May 2018, WS conducted a total of 10 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at five different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2018 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by the MetroParks.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at the Mill Creek Metroparks exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 56 nests (**Figures 1 - 4**) and treated 342 eggs during the 2018 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each marked/treated nest (**Attachment 1**). For the 2018 management season there was an average of 6.1 eggs/nest. Generally, 3-4 goslings in a brood will reach flight stage. Based on the number of eggs and nests that WS treated, we estimate that 168 to 224 flight stage Canada geese were prevented from entering the population on Mill Creek MetroParks property. When compared to the 2013-2017 efforts, the total number of goose nests located and eggs treated in 2018 was slightly higher than the five-year average (**Table 1**). There was a 25% increase in the number of nests located and an 80% increase in the number of eggs treated at the Newport Wetland site from 2017. This increase is likely due to a flood event that occurred the week of April 16 and destroyed many of the active nests at the site, forcing the pairs to start new clutches. There was no change in the number of nests located and eggs treated at the Wildlife Sanctuary from 2017. No nests were located at Lily Pond. One nest was located and five eggs treated at Lake Cohasset, which is similar to last year. There were two nests located and 12 eggs treated at Lake Glacier, which was similar to the results from 2017. However, we could not locate the nest for banded goose 1038-33448. This goose has nested on the bridge below Glacier Lake for the past couple years. The goose was observed May 9 with a successful clutch at Glacier Lake. We assume this bird nested off property and came to the lake to rear its young. Four total family groups were observed with 15 total goslings at Glacier Lake. These geese also likely nested off



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property and came to Glacier Lake to rear. In addition, one pair with two goslings was observed in the creek above Newport Wetlands and one pair with four goslings was observed at the Wildlife Sanctuary.

During the course of the treatment, multiple banded geese were documented. Banding numbers that were visible were submitted to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for banding data (**Attachment 2**). One of the previously observed banded birds (1078-42108) at Newport Wetlands was not observed this year, suggesting that some pairs may have been persuaded through egg treatment to find more suitable habitat. However, a new banded goose (1188-04652) was observed nesting at Newport Wetlands, suggesting that new pairs may be moving in and maintaining the nesting population size. Wildlife Services strongly encourages continued harassment to dissuade new pairs of geese from setting up nesting territories.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MetroParks properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so the MetroParks should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at

the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on Mill Creek MetroParks owned and managed property, 2013-2018.

Year	2013-2017 AVG		2017		2018	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	33	156.5	28	114	34	208
Lily Pond	0.5	3	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	1.5	7	2	5	1	5
Lake Glacier	1	6.5	2	13	2	12
Wildlife Sanctuary	13.5	67.5	20	111	18	111
Other**	0.5	3	1	6	1	6
Total	50	242.5	53	242	56	342

** A Canada goose nest was treated at a Mill Creek MetroParks maintenance building that is not depicted on the included maps.

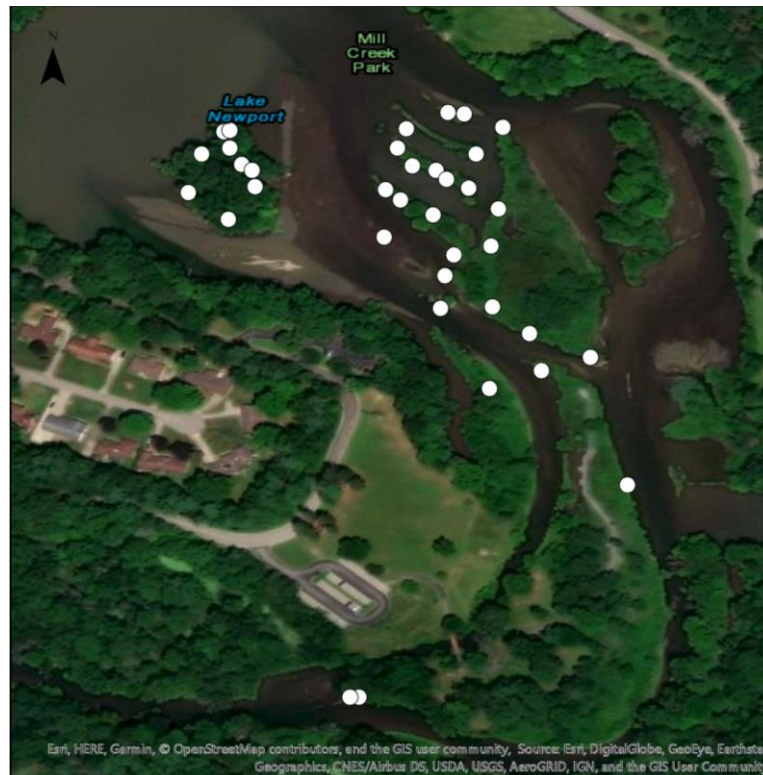


Figure 1. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Newport Wetlands site, 2018.



Figure 2. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Lake Glacier site, 2018.



Figure 3. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Lake Cohasset site, 2018.



Figure 4. Canada goose nest treatment locations (white dots) at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2018.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 20 March-25 May 2018. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; MG=Maintenance Garage; C= Lake Cohasset; GL=Lake Glacier)

ID Number	Latitude	Longitude
N01	41.0507	-80.67767
N02	41.05451	-80.67858
N03	41.0529	-80.67644
N04	41.05315	-80.67652
N05	41.05454	-80.6767
N06	41.05399	-80.67673
N07	41.05332	-80.67712
N08	41.05436	-80.67873
N09	41.0544	-80.67741
N10	41.05425	-80.67715
N11	41.05464	-80.67707
N12	41.05299	-80.67611
N13	41.05354	-80.67709
N14	41.05368	-80.67703
N15	41.05395	-80.67717
N16	41.05412	-80.67749
N17	41.05429	-80.67846
N18	41.0541	-80.67882
N19	41.05392	-80.67855
N20	41.05428	-80.67731
N21	41.05419	-80.67708
N22	41.05374	-80.67678
N23	41.05414	-80.67837
N24	41.05436	-80.67688
N25	41.05425	-80.67839
N26	41.05452	-80.67854
N27	41.05278	-80.67679
N28	41.05453	-80.67735
N29	41.05463	-80.67696
N30	41.0507	-80.67773
N31	41.05333	-80.67677
N32	41.05405	-80.67739
N33	41.0538	-80.6775
N34	41.0544	-80.67854
N35	41.05413	-80.67693
N36	41.05213	-80.67586

Attachment 1 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 20 March-25 May 2018. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; MG=Maintenance Garage; C= Lake Cohasset; GL=Lake Glacier)

ID Number	Latitude	Longitude
S01	40.97721	-80.69595
S02	40.97804	-80.69219
S03	40.9777	-80.68964
S04	40.97811	-80.68964
S05	40.97726	-80.68962
S06	40.97831	-80.6926
S07	40.97517	-80.69169
S08	40.97923	-80.69507
S09	40.97957	-80.69254
S10	40.97671	-80.68962
S11	40.97882	-80.69517
S12	40.97846	-80.69274
S13	40.97749	-80.69197
S14	40.97748	-80.69172
S15	40.97844	-80.68968
S16	40.97764	-80.68966
S17	40.97824	-80.69236
S18	40.97783	-80.68964
GL01	41.09777	-80.67443
GL02	41.09594	-80.67524
MG01	41.08883	-80.70255
C01	41.07851	-80.68807

Attachment 2. Banding information from banded waterfowl species viewed on MetroParks properties during Canada goose egg/nest treatment.

1038-33376

Species: Large Canada Goose
Date banded: 06/26/2008
Banding Location: KENSINGTON, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA
Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2008
Sex: FEMALE

1038-33448

Species: Large Canada Goose
Date banded: 06/26/2008
Banding Location: AUSTINTOWN, MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO, USA
Age: HATCHED IN 2007 OR EARLIER
Sex: FEMALE

1038-33393

Species: Large Canada Goose
Date banded: 6/26/2008
Banding location: KENSINGTON, COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO, USA
Age: WAS TOO YOUNG TO FLY WHEN BANDED IN 2008
Sex: FEMALE

1188-04652

Species: Canada Goose
Date banded: 07/08/2016
Banding Location: NEAR MOOSONEE, ONTARIO, CANADA
Age: HATCHED IN 2015 OR EARLIER
Sex: MALE

Attachment 3. Goose nest observed 4/26/18. Goose eggs were laid in mallard nest and the following week all mallard eggs were destroyed and replaced by a full clutch of goose eggs.





Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western Reserve Rd
Building 1
Poland
Ohio, 44514
Voice 330.726.3386
Fax 330.726.3318

June 17, 2019

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between 27 March and 4 June 2019, WS conducted a total of 13 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees addled Canada goose eggs at two different sites located on park-owned property. Egg addling was conducted in accordance with the approved 2019 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2019 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 34 active nests (**Figures 1 and 2**) and treated 173 eggs at the Newport Wetlands and Glacier Lake sites during the 2019 nesting season. Additionally, WS located 21 active nests (**Figure 3**) and 111 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however these nests were not treated during the 2019 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active and inactive nest located (**Attachment 1**). Nests that were found abandoned or already depredated were marked and assigned a site ID number, but were not included in the active nest figures above. Nests that were previously depredated but then had new eggs laid in the same nest bowl retained their original nest ID number, while all new nest bowls were given a new ID number.

For the 2019 management season there was an average of 5.08 eggs treated/active nest in the management areas, and an average of 5.29 eggs/active nest at the Wildlife Sanctuary. These figures are expected as eggs were treated in the management areas as they were found, and therefore not all nests were completed before treated eggs either broke or were depredated, whereas the nests found in the Sanctuary were allowed to reach a full clutch. The total number of eggs and nests found in the management areas could also be higher due to management efforts, as the probability of nest depredation of treated eggs or eggs

breaking increases as the eggs decompose, potentially resulting in more re-nesting efforts, although direct causation is unknown. The combined average of eggs found per active nest for all sites regardless of management status was 5.16 eggs/active nest during the 2019 season.

When compared to the 2013-2018 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs located in 2019 was higher than the six-year average (**Table 1**), however the number of nests and eggs treated was lower as no management activities occurred at the Wildlife Sanctuary in 2019. The overall number of eggs found and treated at Newport Wetlands was also down 22% from 2018. This decrease is likely due to a higher than average number of nests and eggs treated in 2018 as a result of flooding that had occurred during the week of 16 April 2018, which may have caused a reported increase in re-nesting events for that year. Other environmental factors may have also contributed to a decrease in eggs laid per active nest, as the 2018 season had an average of 6.10 eggs/nest compared to 5.16 eggs/nest combined average of all sites in 2019 regardless of management status. There were three more active nests located at the Wildlife Sanctuary during the 2019 season than compared to 2018, however the number of eggs found was the same. No goose nesting behavior was observed by WS or reported by MCMP staff at Lily Pond, Lake Cohasset, or other areas on MCMP property during the 2019 season.

-Of the 21 active nests found at the Wildlife Sanctuary where no treatments occurred, there were only two potentially successful nests. Nests S07 and S08 were each found abandoned with two eggs remaining after 26 days of monitoring, but no shell fragments were left to confirm that the nests were indeed successful or depredated. These nests were otherwise undisturbed, and were therefore potentially successful. Accounting for the two unhatched eggs, the brood sizes for each nest would have been three and five goslings respectively. A brood of seven goslings was observed at the Sanctuary on 5/16/19, and a brood of an unknown number was observed during the last site visit on 6/4/19. Coyote (*Canis latrans*) and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) sign was abundant at the Wildlife Sanctuary, with raccoon sightings occurring during the day in nesting areas on two different occasions, one of which was a raccoon actively preying on a gosling. One raccoon was also observed at the Newport Wetlands nesting area toward the end of the nesting season.

Two broods of four goslings each were observed on multiple occasions by WS on the west side of Glacier Lake during the survey period. Two nests of seven and four eggs were found and treated at Glacier Lake by WS during the 2019 season, but no other nesting behavior was observed on MCMP property in that area. Potentially nesting pairs were observed under and north of the I-680 bridge, but these were not investigated further as they were considered to be off of MCMP property. No goslings were observed by WS personnel anywhere else in the management area, but MCMP staff reported seeing twenty-five goslings with one pair of adult geese at Newport Lake after a flooding event. Both WS and MCMP staff speculate that these geese were washed out of nearby areas elsewhere in the watershed by the flooding event as the goslings were noted to be larger in size and no evidence of successful nesting had been observed in that area.

previously. Ultimately, all treated nests were eventually depredated or washed out by flooding.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently inhabit MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to find and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Although nesting success was low and depredation was high in the Wildlife Sanctuary where no treatments occurred, predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property, 2013-2019.

Year	2013-2018 AVG		2018		2019	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	33.17	165.08	34	208	32	162
Lily Pond	0.42	2.5	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	1.42	6.67	1	5	0	0
Lake Glacier	1.17	7.42	2	12	2	11
Wildlife Sanctuary	14.25	74.75	18	111	21*	111*
Other**	0.58	3.50	1	6	0	0
Total Located	51.01	259.92	56	342	55	284
Total Treated	51.01	259.92	56	342	34*	173*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2019 season, figures are presented here for comparative purposes only.



Figure 1. Canada goose nest locations (red dots) at the Newport Wetlands site, 2019



Figure 2. Canada goose nest locations (red dots) at the Glacier Lake site, 2019.



Figure 3. Canada goose nest locations (red dots) at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2019.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 27 March-4 June 2019. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; GL=Glacier Lake)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest	Status
GL01	41.08901	-80.67466	7	Active
GL02	41.09070	-80.67549	0	Inactive
GL03	41.09781	-80.67442	4	Active
N01	41.05074	-80.67773	7	Active
N02	41.05349	-80.67597	6	Active
N03	41.05297	-80.67603	1	Active
N04	41.05438	-80.67740	5	Active
N05	41.05356	-80.67709	6	Active
N06	41.05394	-80.67866	5	Active
N07	41.05458	-80.67855	0	Inactive
N08	41.05309	-80.67724	5	Active
N09	41.05332	-80.67680	7	Active
N10	41.05308	-80.67644	13	Active
N11	41.05405	-80.67735	6	Active
N12	41.05406	-80.67670	5	Active
N13	41.05454	-80.67673	4	Active
N14	41.05420	-80.67705	6	Active
N15	41.05443	-80.67706	5	Active
N16	41.05460	-80.67700	7	Active
N17	41.05412	-80.67887	5	Active
N18	41.05429	-80.67876	5	Active
N19	41.05442	-80.67844	6	Active
N20	41.05413	-80.67843	6	Active
N21	41.05398	-80.67822	6	Active
N22	41.05371	-80.67695	2	Active
N23	41.05436	-80.67690	3	Active
N24	41.05453	-80.67855	6	Active
N25	41.05215	-80.67555	4	Active
N26	41.05275	-80.67677	0	Inactive
N27	41.05332	-80.67672	3	Active
N28	41.05408	-80.67744	5	Active
N29	41.05439	-80.67670	6	Active
N30	41.05433	-80.67735	4	Active
N31	41.05422	-80.67715	6	Active
N32	41.05294	-80.67606	1	Active
N33	41.05387	-80.67778	1	Active
N34	41.05452	-80.67854	5	Active

Attachment 1 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 27 March-4 June 2019. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; GL=Glacier Lake)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest	Status
S01	40.97715	-80.68961	6	Active
S02	40.97777	-80.68967	4	Active
S03	40.97839	-80.69285	5	Active
S04	40.97612	-80.69604	7	Active
S05	40.97743	-80.69634	6	Active
S06	40.97722	-80.69598	6	Active
S07	40.98000	-80.69328	5	Active
S08	40.97960	-80.69328	7	Active
S09	40.97838	-80.68970	1	Inactive
S10	40.97762	-80.68969	3	Active
S11	40.97752	-80.69201	7	Active
S12	40.9775	-80.69180	6	Active
S13	40.97836	-80.69264	5	Active
S14	40.97466	-80.69165	7	Active
S15	40.97441	-80.68998	5	Active
S16	40.97734	-80.69658	5	Active
S17	40.97811	-80.68968	0	Inactive
S18	40.97786	-80.68964	0	Inactive
S19	40.97551	-80.69249	6	Active
S20	40.97702	-81.68962	0	Inactive
S21	40.97747	-80.69189	4	Active
S22	40.97747	-80.69176	4	Active
S23	40.97787	-80.68965	4	Active
S24	40.97784	-80.68965	0	Inactive
S25	40.97725	-80.68964	4	Active
S26	40.97681	-80.68963	0	Inactive
S27	40.97848	-80.69267	5	Active



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western
Reserve Road
Building 1
Poland, OH 44514

(330) 726-3386
FAX: (330) 726-3318

June 26, 2020

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Nick Direco,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between April 4th and June 11th 2020, WS conducted a total of 9 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at three different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2020 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2020 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 34 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, and 3**) and treated 154 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Lake Cohasset, and Glacier Lake sites during the 2020 nesting season. Additionally, WS located 10 active nests (**Figure 4**) and 40 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary, but these were not treated during the 2020 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active and inactive nest found (**Table 2**). Nests that were found abandoned or already depredated were marked and assigned a site ID number, but were not included in the active nest figures above.

For the 2020 management season there was an average of 4.53 eggs treated/active nest in the management areas, and an average of 4 eggs/active nest at the Wildlife Sanctuary. The number of total eggs and nests found in the management areas could be higher due to management efforts, as the probability of nest depredation of treated eggs or eggs breaking increases as the eggs decompose, potentially resulting in more re-nesting efforts, although direct causation is unknown. The combined average of eggs found per active nest for all sites regardless of management status was 4.41 eggs/active nest during the 2020 season.

When compared to the 2018/2019 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs located in 2020 was lower than the previous two years (**Table 1**), the number of nests



and eggs treated were also lower than the 2018/2019 season. No management activities occurred at the Wildlife Sanctuary in 2019 or 2020 which can account for the drop in total number of eggs treated the past two seasons. The overall number of eggs found and treated at Newport Wetlands was also down 22% from 2018 and down 15% from 2019. This decrease is likely due to a higher than average number of nests and eggs treated in 2018 as a result of flooding that had occurred the week of April 16th 2018, which may have caused a reported increase in re-nesting events for that year. Other environmental factors may have also contributed to a decrease in eggs laid per active nest, as the 2019 season had an average of 5.16 eggs/nest compared to 4.4 eggs/nest combined average of all sites in 2020, regardless of management status. There were 11 less active nests found at the Wildlife Sanctuary during the 2020 season compared to 2019, with the number of active nests found, down 52%. This could be attributed to it being a dry season. The good nesting habitat that was found in 2019 was no longer satisfactory in 2020. Nesting behavior was observed and nests were treated on Lake Cohasset this season as compared to 2019 when 0 nests were observed. No nesting behavior was observed by WS or reported by MCMP staff at Lily Pond in 2020.

Of the 10 active nests found at the Wildlife Sanctuary where no treatments occurred, there were only 2 potentially successful nests. Nests S8 and S18 were each found abandoned with an egg or two remaining after 26 days of monitoring, but no shell fragments were left to confirm that the nests were indeed successful or depredated. These nests were otherwise undisturbed, and were therefore potentially successful. Accounting for the unhatched eggs, the brood sizes for nests S8 and S18 would have been 7 and 4 goslings respectively. A brood of 7 goslings was observed at the Sanctuary on 5/20/20. Coyote and raccoon sign was abundant at the Wildlife Sanctuary, with raccoon sightings occurring during the day in nesting areas while WS staff were out surveying goose nesting activity.

One brood of 6 goslings was observed on 04/27/2020 by WS on the Southwest side of Newport Lake during the survey period. A group of goslings of unknown number were also observed by MCMP staff on the north end of Newport Lake on 04/24/2020. One nest of 7 eggs was found and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. A group of 5 goslings was also observed on the west side of Glacier Lake during the 2020 season. Two nests of 5 eggs each were observed and treated on Lake Cohasset as well. No other nesting behavior was observed on MCMP property in that area. No goslings were observed by WS personnel anywhere else in the management area, but WS staff reported seeing 10 almost fully grown goslings with a group of adult geese at Newport Lake on 06/11/2020. WS staff speculate that these geese were either part of the brood spotted on 04/27/20 or from nearby areas elsewhere, as the goslings were noted to be larger in size and no evidence of successful nesting had been observed in that area previously. Ultimately, all treated nests were eventually depredated or abandoned. There was no evidence of any treated eggs hatching for the 2020 management season.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to find and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Although nesting success was low and depredation was high in the Wildlife Sanctuary where no treatments occurred, predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

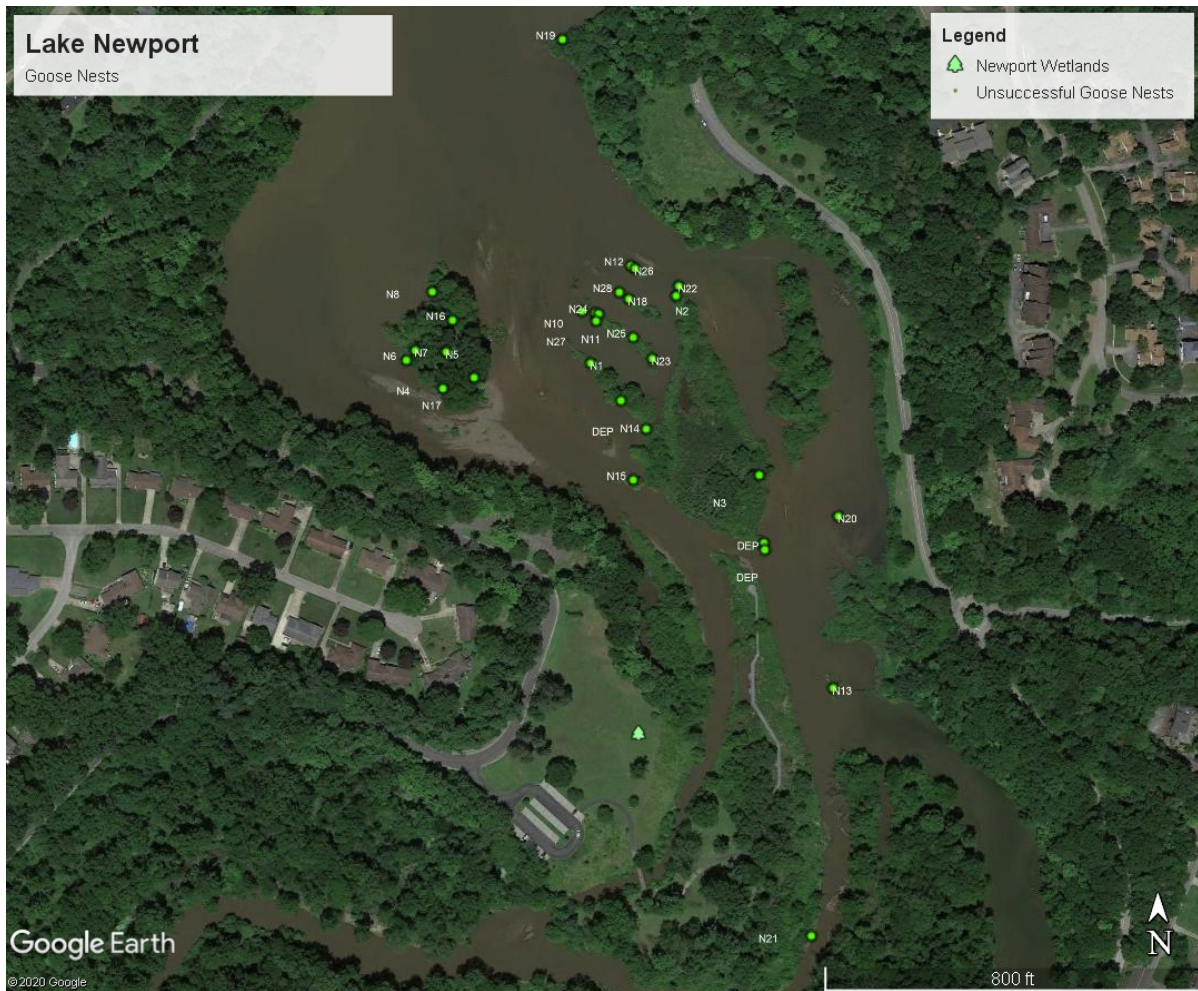


Figure 1. Canada goose nest locations (green dots) at the Newport Wetlands site, 2020.

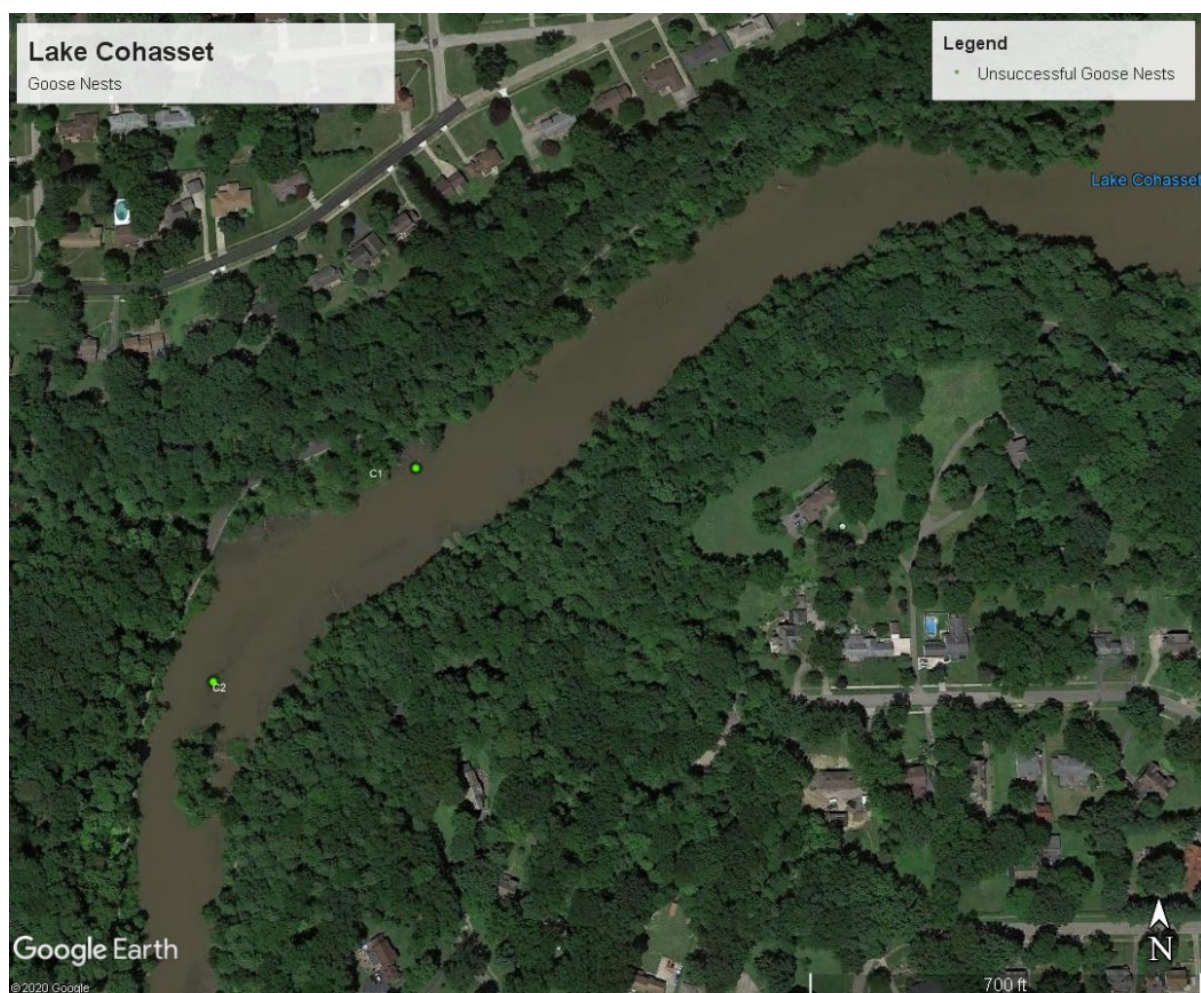


Figure 1. Canada goose nest locations (green dots) at the Lake Cohasset site, 2020.

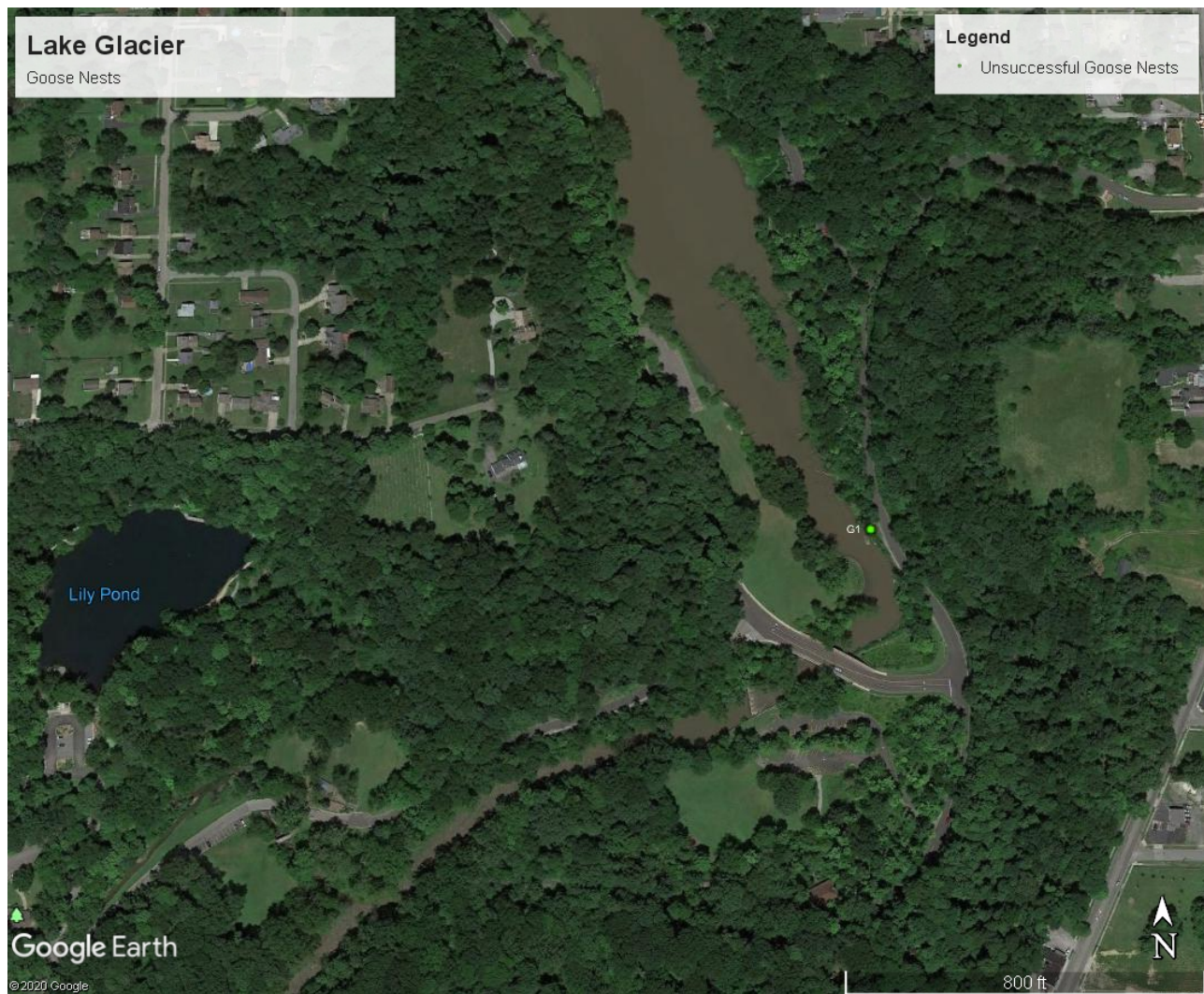


Figure 3. Canada goose nest locations (green dots) at the Glacier Lake site, 2020.

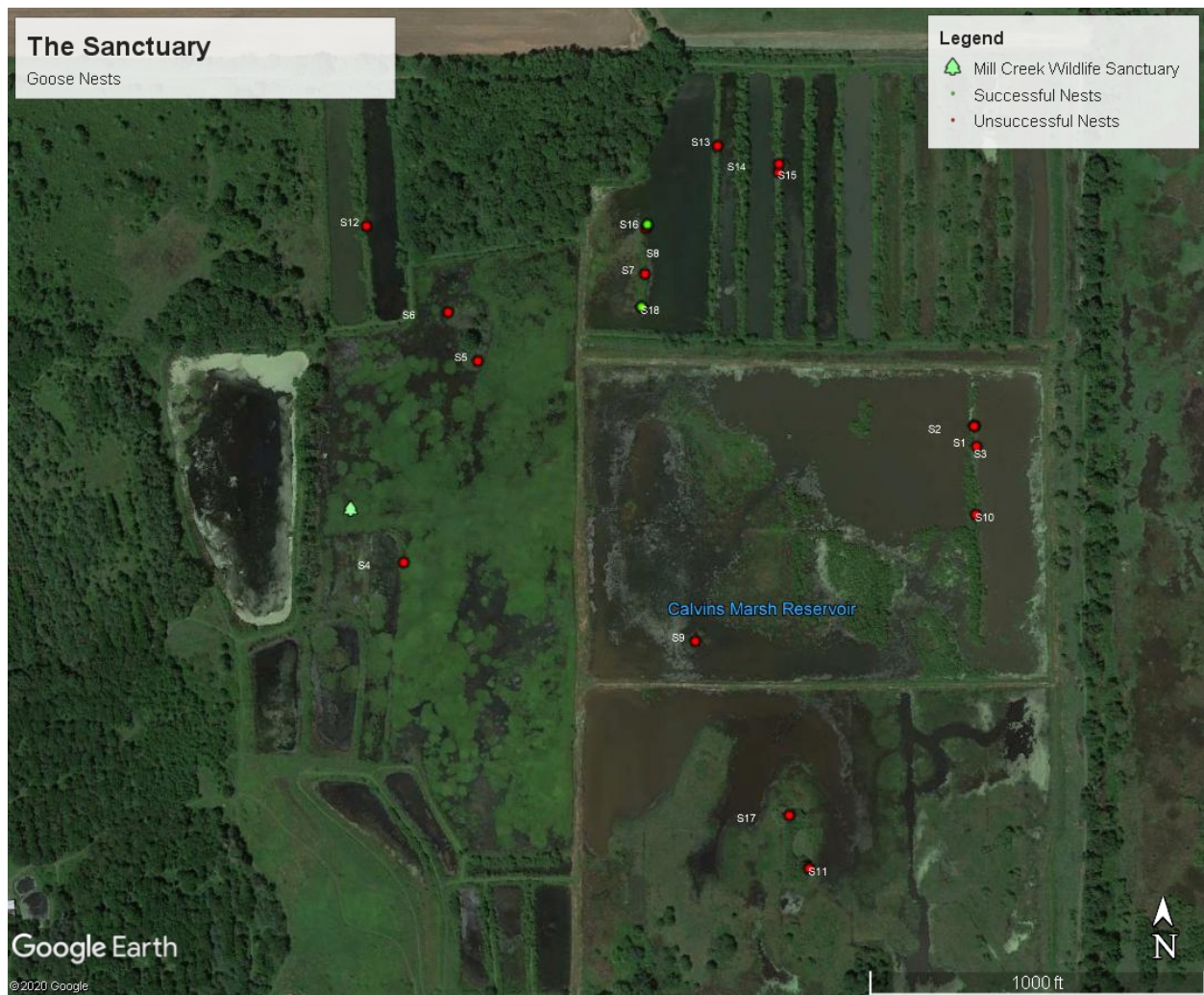


Figure 4. Canada goose successful nest locations (green dots) unsuccessful nest locations (red dots) at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2020.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property, 2018-2020.

Year	2018		2019		2020	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	34	208	32	162	31	137
Lily Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	1	5	0	0	2	10
Lake Glacier	2	12	2	11	1	7
Wildlife Sanctuary	18	111	21*	111*	10*	40*
Other**	1	6	0	0	0	0
Total Found	56	342	55	284	44	194
Total Treated	56	342	34*	173*	34*	154*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2019/2020 season, figures are presented here for comparative purposes only.

Table 2. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, April 4th-June 11th 2020. (N=Newport Wetlands; C=Lake Cohasset; G=Glacier Lake; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; NDEP=Depredated nests @ Newport Wetlands)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest	Status
C1	41.07958	-80.68675	5	Active
C2	41.0785	-80.68809	5	Active
G1	41.08903	-80.67453	7	Active
NDEP	41.05299	-80.67604	0	Inactive
NDEP	41.05366	-80.67695	0	Inactive
NDEP	41.05295	-80.67604	0	inactive
N1	41.05405	-80.67738	6	Active
N2	41.05444	-80.67671	6	Active
N3	41.05338	-80.67608	6	Active
N4	41.05391	-80.67854	6	Active
N5	41.05412	-80.67851	7	Active
N6	41.05407	-80.67882	5	Active
N7	41.05413	-80.67875	4	Active
N8	41.05448	-80.67862	5	Active
N9	41.05423	80677115	10	Active
N10	41.0543	-80.67734	6	Active
N11	41.05436	-80.67745	2	Active
N12	41.05462	-80.67706	7	Active
N13	41.05213	-80.67552	8	Active
N14	41.05383	-80.67715	1	Active
N15	41.05336	-80.67706	5	Active
N16	41.05431	-80.67846	3	Active
N17	41.05397	-80.67829	4	Active
N18	41.05443	-80.67708	7	Active
N19	41.05597	-80.67759	5	Active
N20	41.05314	-80.67546	6	Active
N21	41.0507	-80.67571	0	Inactive
N22	41.0545	-80.67669	3	Active

Table 2 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, April 4th-June 11th 2020. (N=Newport Wetlands; C=Lake Cohasset; G=Glacier Lake; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; NDEP=Depredated nests @ Newport Wetlands)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest	Status
N23	41.05407	-80.6769	3	Active
N24	41.05435	-80.6773	4	Active
N25	41.0542	-80.677	5	Active
N26	41.05461	-80.677	7	Active
N27	41.05434	-80.6773	2	Active
N28	41.05447	-80.6772	4	Active
S1	40.97818	-80.6897	2	Active
S2	40.97835	-80.6897	3	Active
S3	40.97835	-80.6897	2	Active
S4	40.97721	-80.6959	0	Inactive
S5	40.97888	-80.6951	5	Active
S6	40.97928	-80.6954	5	Active
S7	40.97961	-80.6933	8	Active
S8	40.98002	-80.6933	3	Active
S9	40.97657	-80.6927	0	Inactive
S10	40.97762	-80.6897	0	Inactive
S11	40.97472	-80.6915	0	Inactive
S12	40.98	-80.6964	0	Inactive
S13	40.98068	-80.6925	0	Inactive
S14	40.98053	-80.6918	0	Inactive
S15	40.98046	-80.6918	0	Inactive
S16	40.97999	-80.6933	1	Active
S17	40.97515	-80.6917	6	Active
S18	40.97933	-80.6933	5	Active



July 1st, 2021

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western
Reserve Road
Building 1
Poland, OH 44514

(330) 726-3386
FAX: (330) 726-3318

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Mr. Nick Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between April 5th and June 4th, 2021 WS conducted a total of nine site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at four different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2021 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary however, at the request of MCMP, these nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2021 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 roundup.

In total, WS located eight active nests (**Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4**) and treated 39 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Lake Cohasset, Lily Pond, and Glacier Lake sites during the 2021 nesting season. Additionally, WS located four active nests (**Figure 5**) and 23 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however these nests were not treated during the 2021 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active and inactive nest located (**Table 2**). Nests that were found abandoned or already depredated were marked and assigned a site ID number but were not included in the active nest figures.

For the 2021 management season, there was an average of 4.88 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas, and an average of 5.75 eggs per active nest at the Wildlife Sanctuary. The combined average number of eggs per active nest for all sites, regardless of management status, was 5.17.

When compared to the 2019-2020 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs located in 2021 was lower than the previous two years (**Table 1**). The overall number of eggs found and treated at Newport Wetlands was down 88% from 2019 and down 86% from 2020. This could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest management by WS.

Two nests were located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. A third nest was observed at the dam on Glacier Lake but was left untreated because of safety concerns with accessing the nest. It was monitored for six weeks and believed to have hatched. One nest was located and treated on Lake Cohasset. Finally, a single nest was treated at Lily Pond in 2021. This was the first nesting attempt at this location in several years.

One brood of five goslings was observed on May 6, 2021 by WS on the south side of Newport Lake during a survey. A group of five goslings was also observed by WS on the northwest end of Newport Lake on May 12, 2021. This was most likely the same group that was spotted the week before at the south end of the lake. A group of seven goslings was observed on the south side of Glacier Lake during the 2021 season. No goslings were observed by WS personnel anywhere else in the management area. Ultimately, all treated nests were eventually depredated or abandoned. There was no evidence of any treated nests hatching for the 2021 management season.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

When compared to 2020, the number of active nests located at the Wildlife Sanctuary during the 2021 nesting season was down 42%. A total of four active nests were located and believed to have successfully hatched. All four nests were found abandoned with eggshells remaining after 26 days of monitoring. This could have been a sign of depredation as well, but several pairs of goslings were observed within the next few weeks after nests were found abandoned. A brood of eight goslings and two pairs of geese was observed at the Sanctuary on May 27, 2021. Overall, it is believed that nest success at the Wildlife Sanctuary was increased. This is likely due to the implementation of a nest predator management program at the Sanctuary over the past several years.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is

recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued, it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

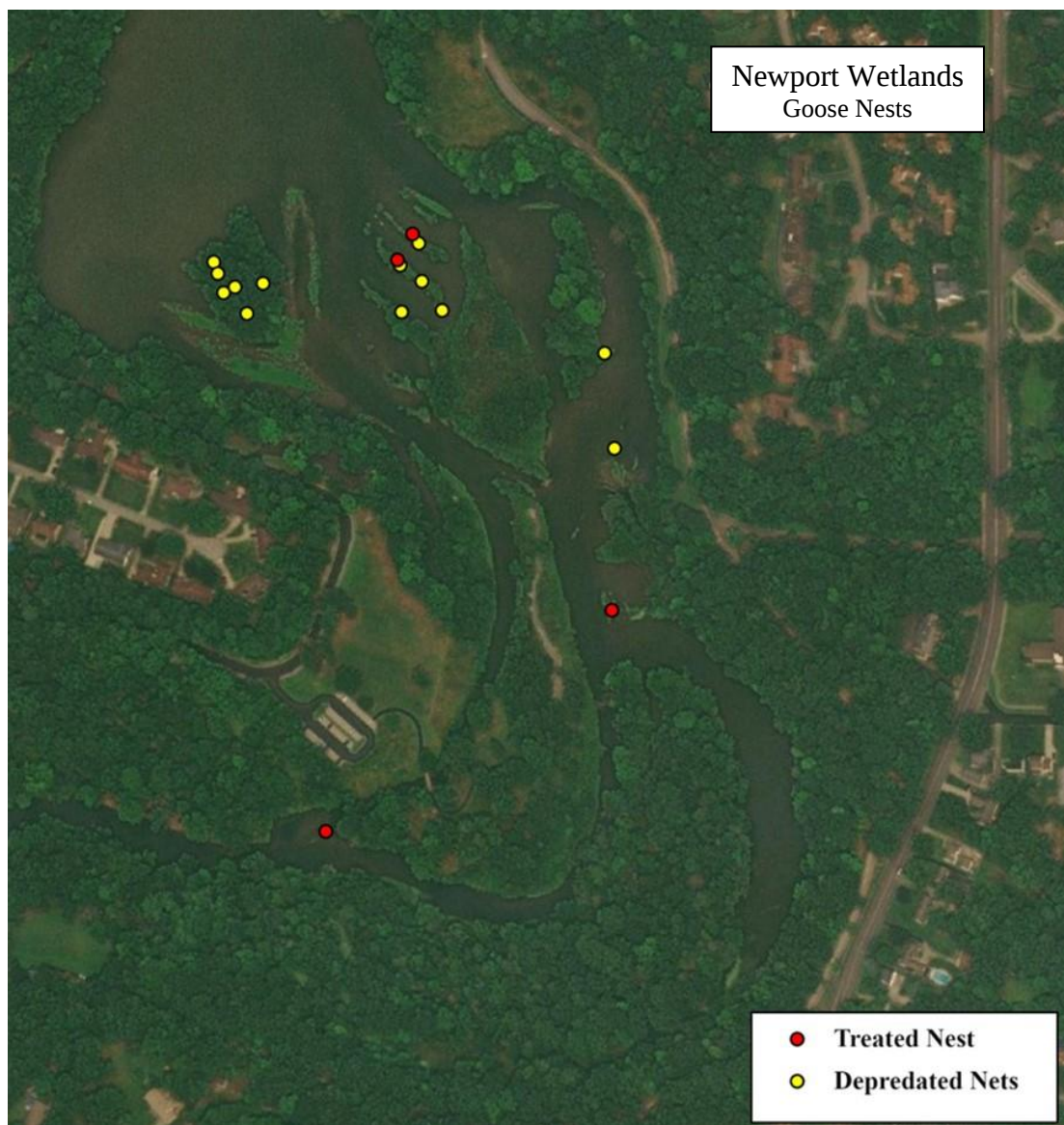


Figure 1: Canada goose nest locations at the Newport Wetlands site, 2021



Figure 2: Canada goose nest locations at the Lake Cohasset site, 2021.

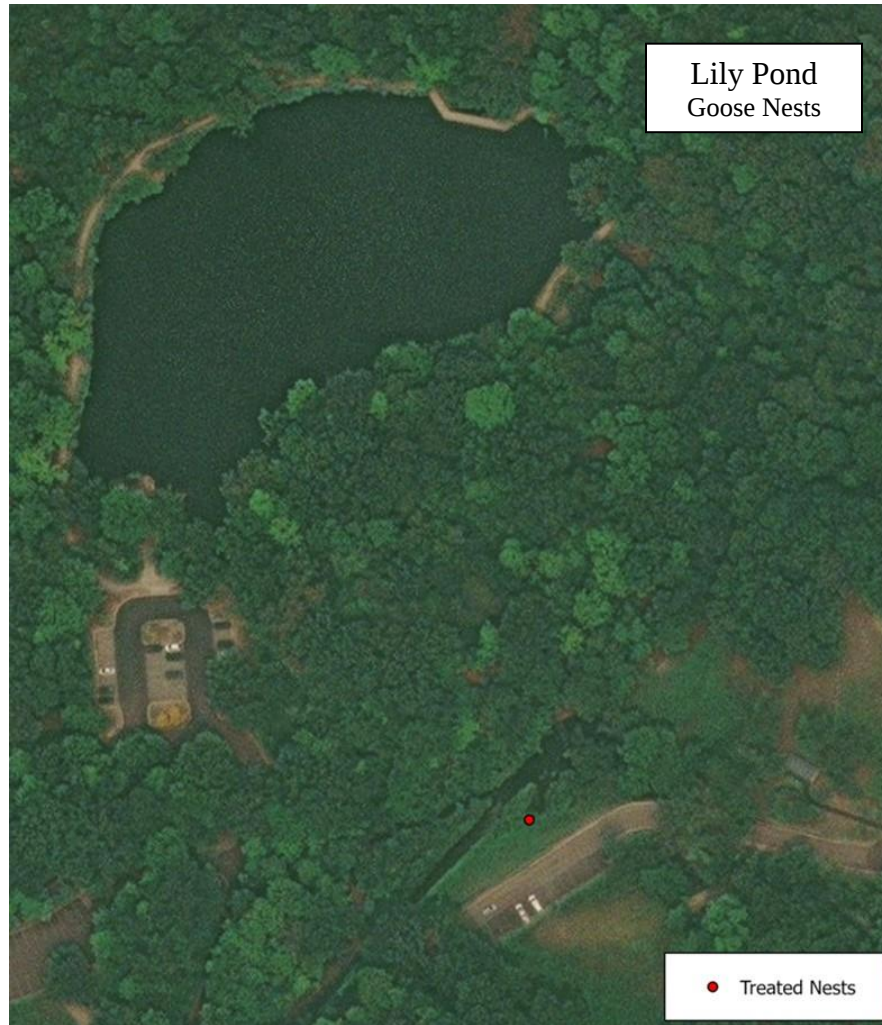


Figure 3. Canada goose nest locations at the Lily Pond site, 2021.

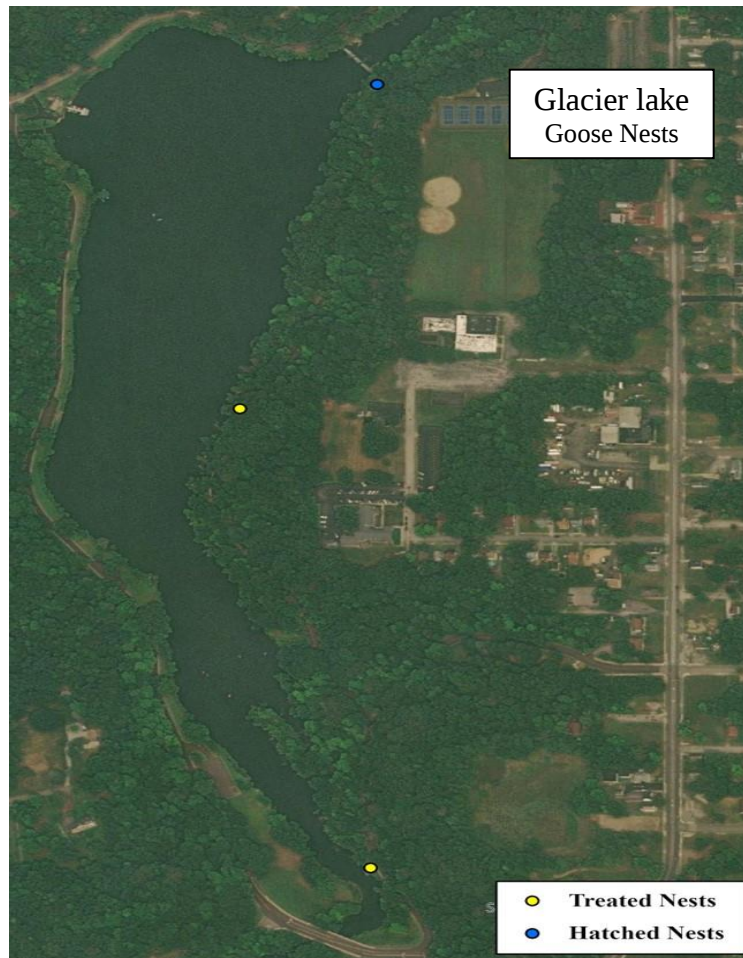


Figure 4. Canada goose nest locations at the lake Glacier site, 2021.



Figure 5. Canada goose successful nest locations at the Wildlife Sanctuary site, 2021.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2019		2020		2021	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	32	162	31	137	4	19
Lily Pond	0	0	0	0	1	4
Lake Cohasset	0	0	2	10	1	5
Lake Glacier	2	11	1	7	2	11
Wildlife Sanctuary	21*	111*	10*	40*	4*	23*
Total Located	55	284	44	194	12	62
Total Treated	34*	173*	34*	154*	8*	39*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2019-2021 season, figures are presented here for comparative purposes only.

Table 2: Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada Goose nests located by Wildlife Services, April 5th-June 4th, 2021. (N=Newport Wetlands; C=Lake Cohasset; LP=Lily Pond; G=Glacier Lake; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; Dep=depredated nests).

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest	Status
N1	41.05398	-80.677226	0	Dep
N2	41.05397	-80.678513	0	Dep
N3	41.0541	-80.678706	0	Dep
N4	41.05414	-80.678613	0	Dep
N5	41.0543	-80.678791	0	Dep
N6	41.05416	-80.678378	0	Dep
N7	41.05427	-80.677237	0	Dep
N8	41.05312	-80.675458	0	Dep
N9	41.0521	-80.675484	7	Treated
N10	41.05071	-80.677872	7	Treated
N11	41.05447	-80.677133	1	Treated
N12	41.05371	-80.675535	0	Dep
N13	41.05422	-80.678755	0	Dep
N14	41.05431	-80.677258	4	Treated
N15	41.05441	-80.677082	0	Dep
N16	41.05417	-80.677054	0	Dep
N17	41.05399	-80.67689	0	Dep
C1	41.07855	-80.688062	5	Treated
LP1	41.08738	-80.680098	4	Treated
G1	41.09775	-80.674378	Unknown	Not Treated
G2	41.09414	-80.675886	4	Treated
G3	41.08902	-80.674491	7	Treated
S1	40.97746	-80.696289	0	Dep
S2	40.97885	-80.695224	7	Hatched
S3	40.97933	-80.693322	6	Hatched
S4	40.98001	-80.693266	6	Hatched
S5	40.97718	-80.695961	4	Hatched



Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western Reserve
Rd

Building 1

Poland

Ohio, 44514

Voice 330.726.3386

Fax 330.726.3318

July 05, 2022

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Nick Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between 07 April and 26 May 2022, WS conducted a total of 9 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees addled Canada goose eggs at two different sites located on park-owned property. Egg addling was conducted in accordance with the approved 2022 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2022 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014 the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 19 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5**) and treated 112 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Cohasset Lake, Yellow Creek Park, and Glacier Lake sites during the 2022 nesting season. Additionally, WS located 5 active nests (**Figure 5**) and 26 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however these nests were not treated during the 2022 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active and inactive nest located (**Attachment 1**). Nests that were found abandoned or already depredated were marked and assigned a site ID number but were not included in the active nest figures.

For the 2022 management season there was an average of 5.89 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas, and an average of 5.20 eggs/active nest at the Wildlife Sanctuary. The combined average number of eggs per active nest for all sites, regardless of management status, was 5.75.

When compared to the 2020 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs located in 2022 was noticeably lower, (**Table 1**). When compared to the 2021 efforts, the overall number of goose nests and eggs located in 2022 had increased. This could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest

management by WS. Below is the list of management locations during the 2002 Canada goose nesting season for Mill Creek Metro Parks.

Glacier Lake

Three nests were located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. A fourth nest was observed at the dam on Glacier Lake but was left untreated because of safety concerns with accessing the nest. It was monitored for several weeks and believed to have hatched five goslings. One other nest was found hatched out, offsite to the north of Glacier Lake on Trumbull County owned property. This nest was found to have hatched out 3 goslings.

Newport Wetlands

Newport Wetlands had the most Canada goose nesting activity. Thirteen nests were found and treated. An additional seven depredated nests were found throughout the earlier phase of the nesting season.

Cohasset Lake

One nest was located and treated on Lake Cohasset. This nest was in the same location as the last couple nesting seasons.

Lily Pond

No activity found at this location for the 2022 season.

Yellow Creek Park

Yellow Creek Park is a new location WS was asked to add into the project for the 2022 season. Two nests were located and treated at Yellow Creek Park. Two broods of goslings were observed during mid-May in the park by WS.

Sanctuary

Five active nests were located at the Sanctuary by WS. An additional two depredated nests were found while conducting nest and egg surveys. Total number of geese observed at the Sanctuary during weekly site visits appeared to have decreased from previous years. No broods were found to have hatched at this location for the 2022 nesting season.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is

recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

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- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

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Table 1. A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2020		2021		2022	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	31	137	4	19	13	80
Lily Pond	0	0	1	4	0	0
Lake Cohasset	2	10	1	5	1	6
Lake Glacier	1	7	2	11	3	13
Yellow Creek	-	-	-	-	2	13
Wildlife Sanctuary	10*	40*	4*	23*	5*	26*
Total Located	44	194	12	62	24	138
Total Treated	34*	154*	8*	39*	19*	112*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2020-2022 season, figures are presented here for comparative purposes only.

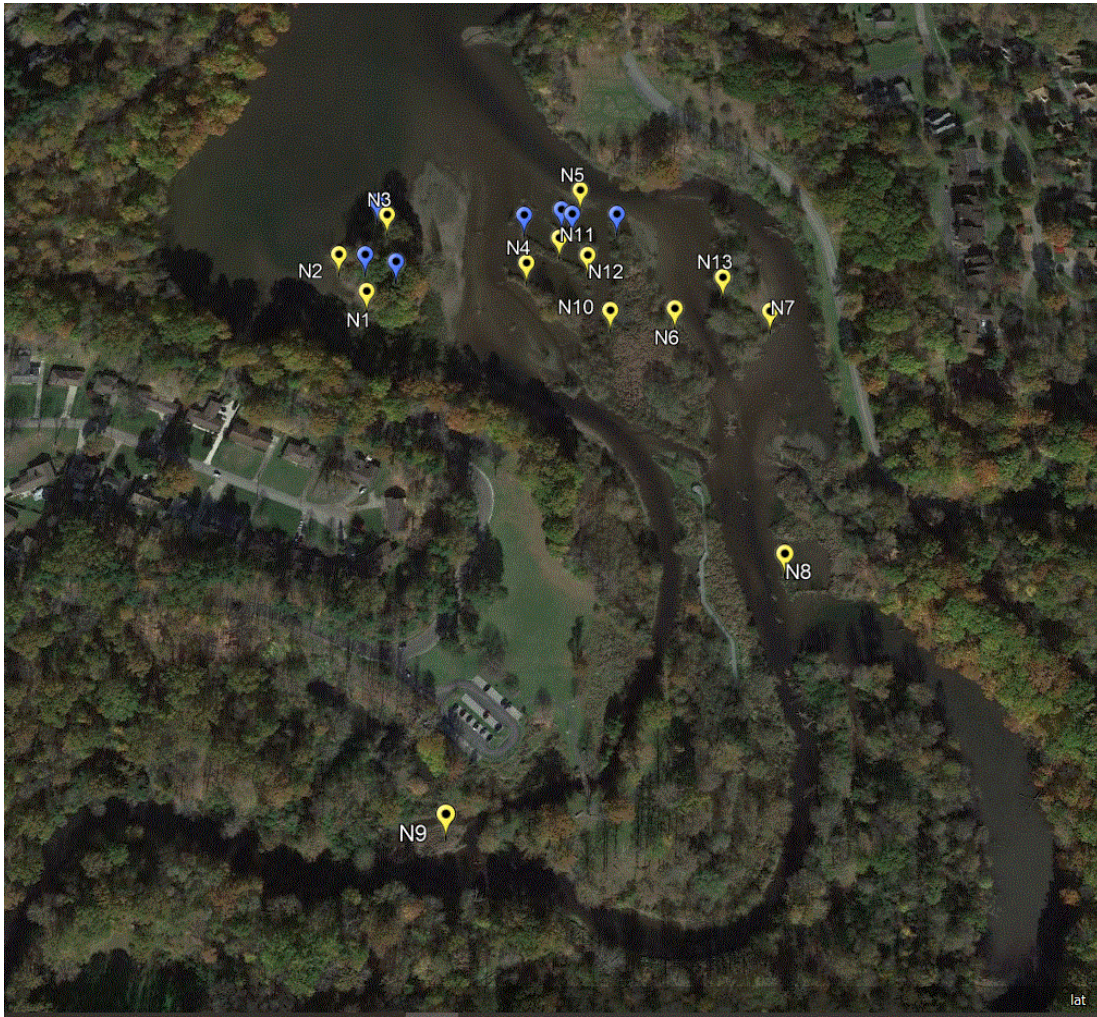


Figure 1. Canada goose active nest locations (yellow icons) and depredated nest locations (blue icons) at Newport Wetlands, 2022.

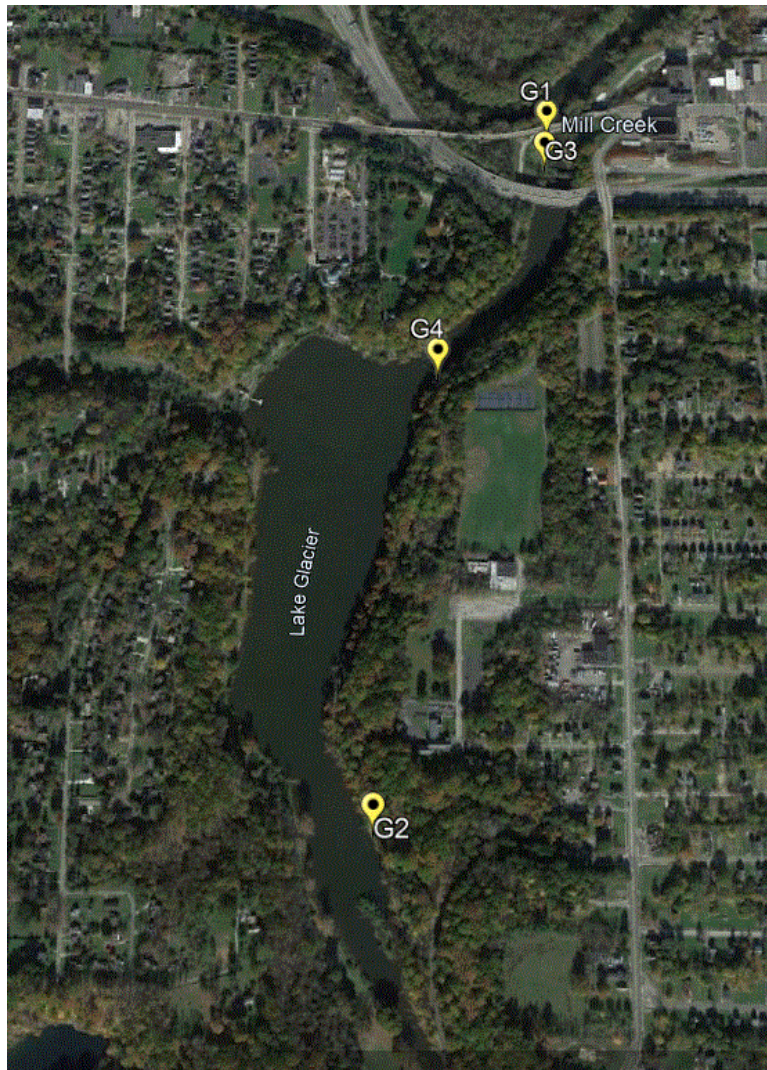


Figure 2. Canada goose active nest locations (yellow icons) at Glacier Lake, 2022.

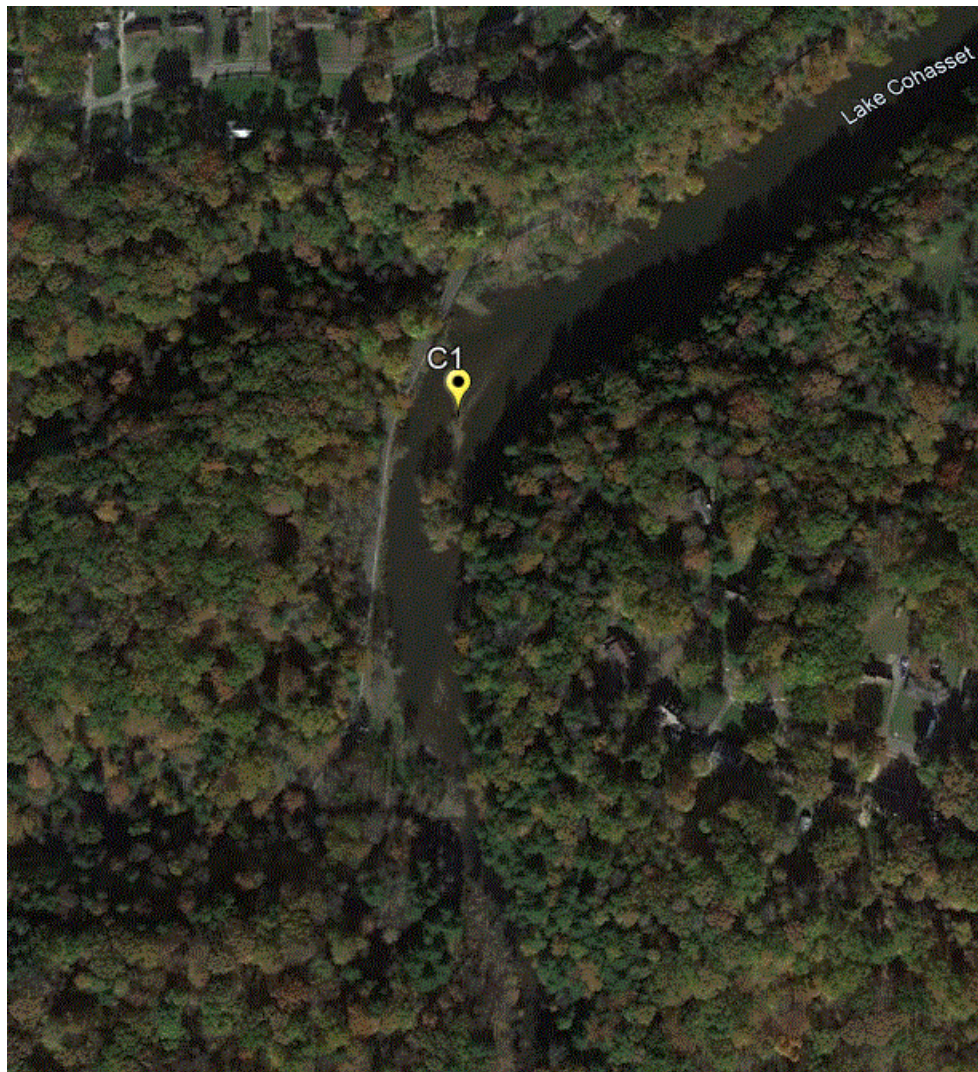


Figure 3. Canada goose nest location (yellow icon) at Lake Cohasset, 2022.

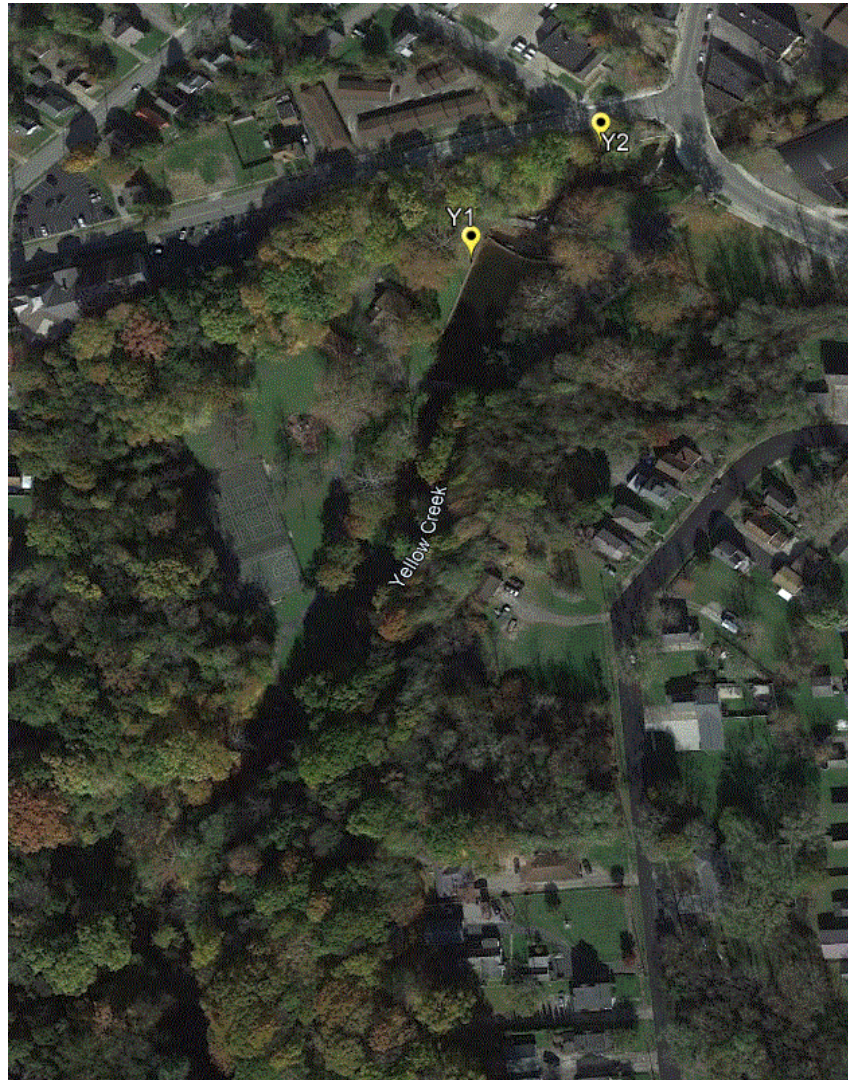


Figure 4. Canada goose nest locations (yellow icon) at Yellow Creek Park, 2022.



Figure 5. Canada goose nest locations (yellow icon) and depredated nest locations (blue icons) at the Wildlife Sanctuary, 2022.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 07 April-26 May 2022. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; G=Glacier Lake; C=Cohasset Lake; Y=Yellow Creek Park)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest
G01	41.10143	-80.67227	3
G02	41.09158	-80.67561	5
G03	41.10098	-80.67235	5
N01	41.05391	-80.67862	6
N02	41.05408	-80.67885	5
N03	41.05439	-80.67848	6
N04	41.05405	-80.67738	10
N05	41.05456	-80.67694	6
N06	41.05373	-80.67625	6
N07	41.05373	-80.67551	7
N08	41.05220	-80.67553	8
N09	41.05074	-80.67795	8
N10	41.05371	-80.67699	5
N11	41.05423	-80.67713	4
N12	41.05412	-80.67691	4
N13	41.05397	-80.67586	5
Y01	41.05454	-80.58953	6
Y02	41.05505	-80.58890	7
C01	41.07858	-80.68808	6

Attachment 1 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests surveyed by Wildlife Services, 07 April-26 May 2022. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; G=Glacier Lake; C=Cohasset Lake; Y=Yellow Creek Park)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest
S01	40.97982	-80.69637	6
S02	40.97722	-80.69596	6
S03	40.97937	-80.69329	5
S04	40.97444	-80.69501	6
S05	40.98042	-80.69179	6



Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

Wildlife Services

590 E. Western Reserve
Rd

Building 1

Poland

Ohio, 44514

Voice 330.726.3386

Fax 330.726.3318

June 05, 2023

Mill Creek MetroParks
7574 Columbiana-Canfield Road
Canfield, Ohio 44406
(330) 702-3000

Nick Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between 13 March and 01 June 2023, WS conducted a total of 16 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at two different sites located on park-owned property. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2023 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2023 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014, the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 23 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5**) and treated 138 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Cohasset Lake, Yellow Creek Park, and Glacier Lake sites during the 2023 nesting season. Additionally, WS located 9 active nests (**Figure 5**) and 45 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however these nests were not treated during the 2023 nesting season. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active nest located (**Attachment 1**).

For the 2023 management season there was an average of 6.0 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas, and an average of 5.0 eggs/active nest at the Wildlife Sanctuary. The combined average number of eggs per active nest for all sites, regardless of management status, was 5.72.

When compared to the 2021 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs located in 2023 was noticeably higher. When compared to the 2022 efforts, the overall number of goose nests and eggs located in 2023 had increased slightly, (**Table 1**). This could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest management by WS. Below is the list of management locations during the 2023 Canada goose nesting season for Mill Creek Metro Parks.

Glacier Lake

Three nests were located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. A fourth nest was observed at the dam on Glacier Lake but was left untreated because of safety concerns with accessing the nest. It was monitored for several weeks and had hatched out in early April. Two other nesting pairs were found off-site to the north of Glacier Lake on Trumbull County owned property, on the Mahoning River.

Newport Wetlands

Newport Wetlands had the most Canada goose nesting activity. Seventeen nests were found and treated. There were no depredated nests found throughout the time of nesting season in 2023 that could be identified.

Cohasset Lake

One nest was located and treated on Lake Cohasset. This nest was in the same location as the last couple nesting seasons.

Lily Pond

No activity found at this location for the 2023 season.

Yellow Creek Park

Two nests were located and treated at Yellow Creek Park. Two pairs of geese were observed with twelve goslings during early May in the park.

Sanctuary

9 active nests were located at the Sanctuary by WS. Total number of geese observed at the Sanctuary during weekly site visits were around twenty-four individuals. No broods were found to have hatched at this location for the 2023 nesting season.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and

proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.

- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued, it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Additional information for managing waterfowl damage may be found on our web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage> and at the Ohio Division of Wildlife's web page at: <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/nuisance-wildlife>. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1. A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2021		2022		2023	
Site	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs	Nest	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	4	19	13	80	17	104
Lily Pond	1	4	0	0	0	0
Lake Cohasset	1	5	1	6	1	6
Lake Glacier	2	11	3	13	3	13
Yellow Creek	-	-	2	13	2	15
Wildlife Sanctuary	4*	23*	5*	26*	9*	45*
Total Located	12	62	24	138	32	183
Total Treated	8*	39*	19*	112*	23*	138*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2021-2023 season, figures are presented here for comparative purposes only.

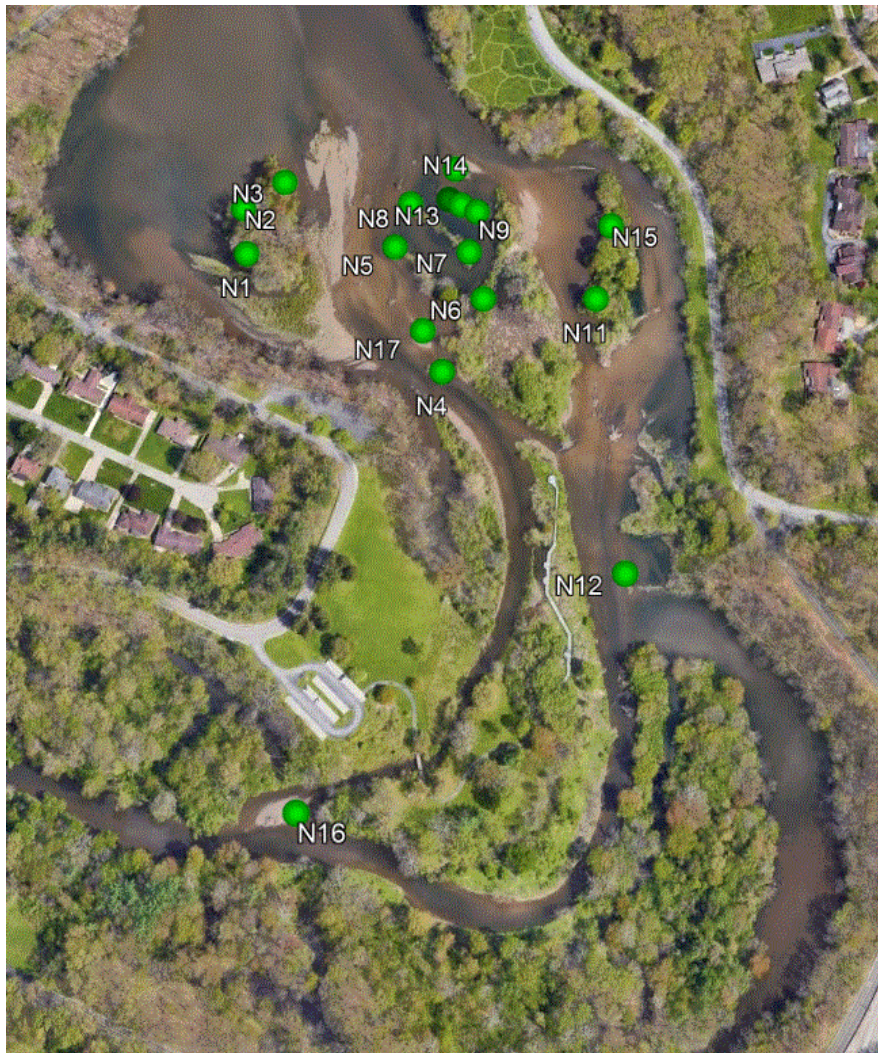


Figure 1. Canada goose active nest locations (green icons) at Newport Wetlands, 2023.

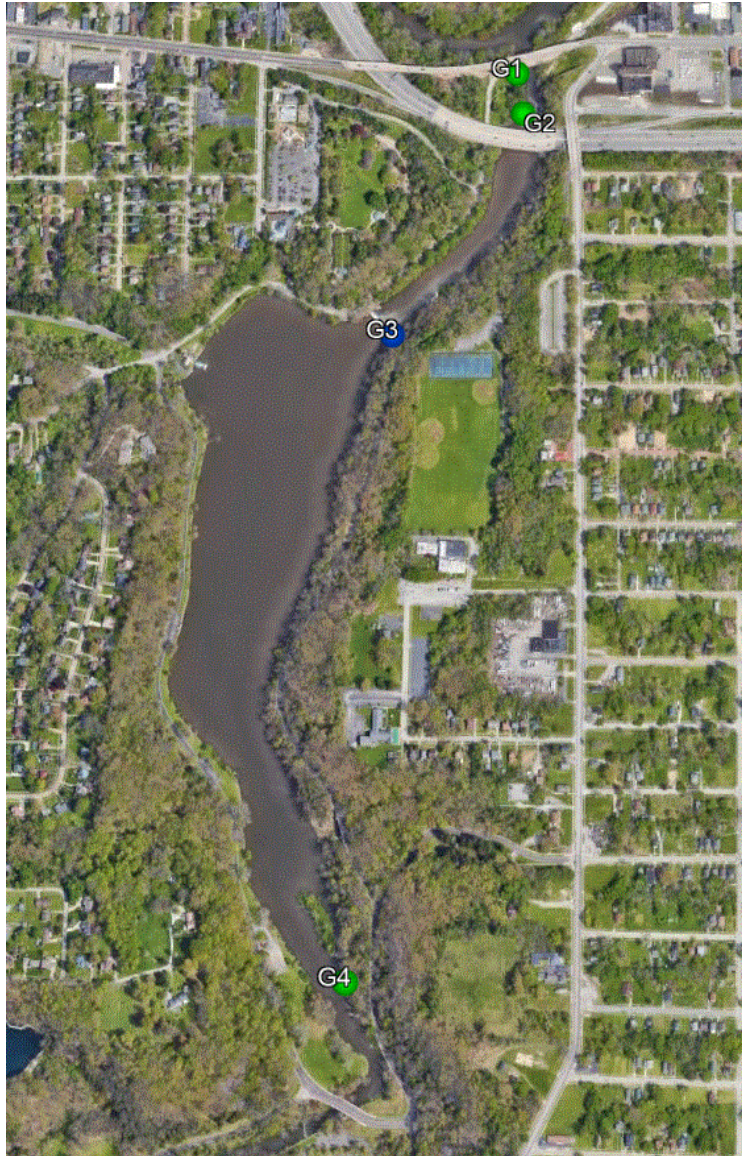


Figure 2. Canada goose active nest locations (green icons) at Glacier Lake, 2023.

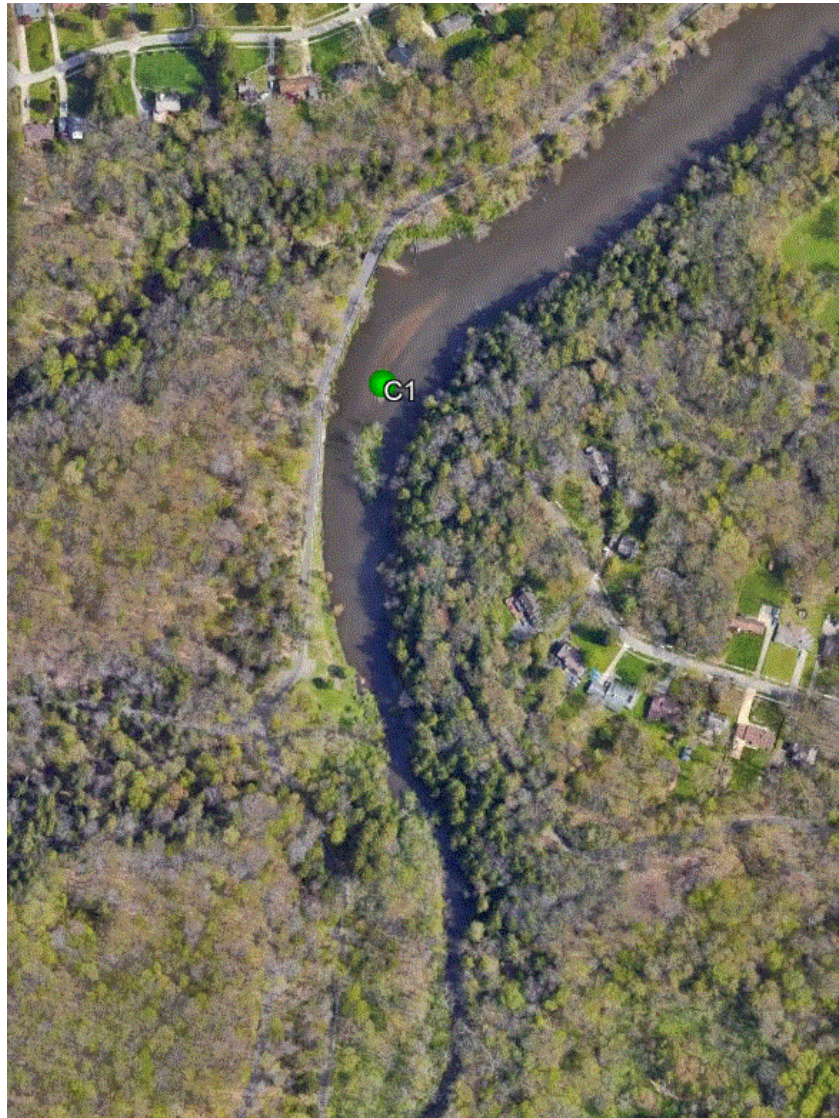


Figure 3. Canada goose nest location (green icon) at Lake Cohasset, 2023.

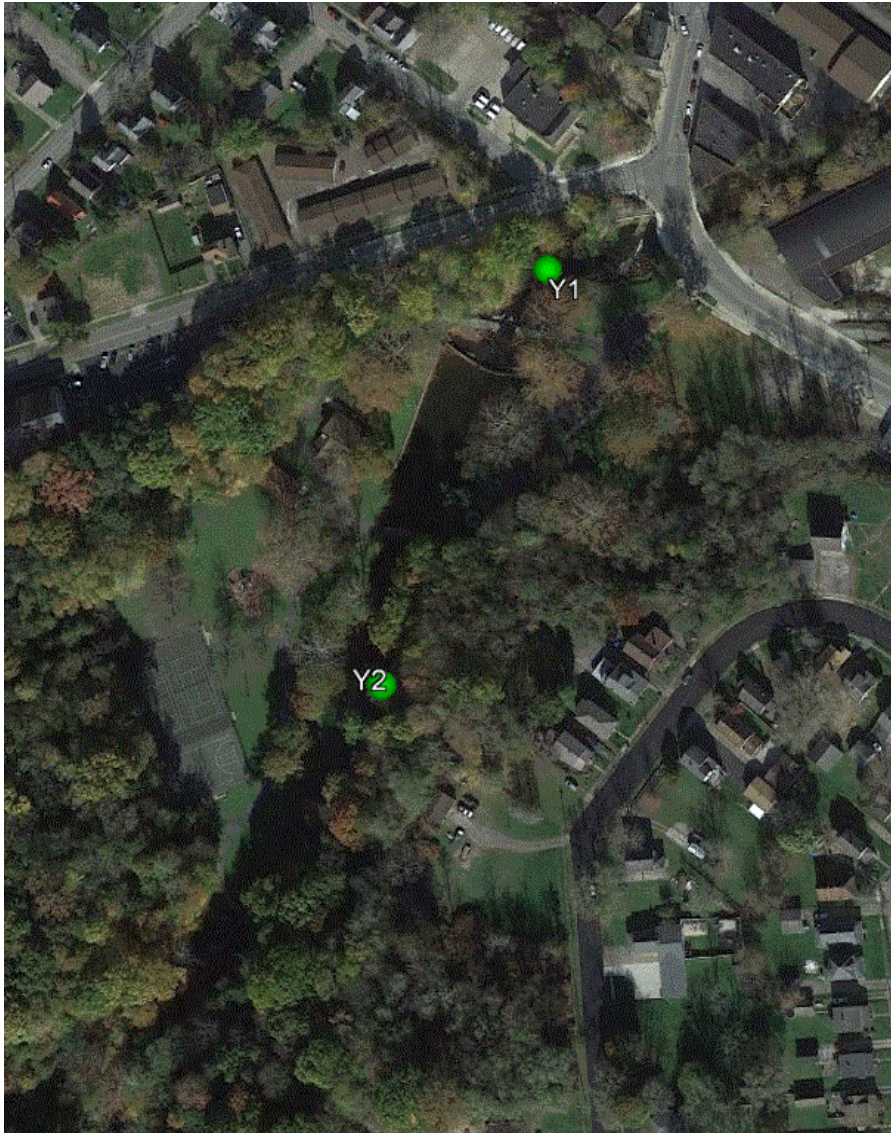


Figure 4. Canada goose nest locations (green icons) at Yellow Creek Park, 2023.

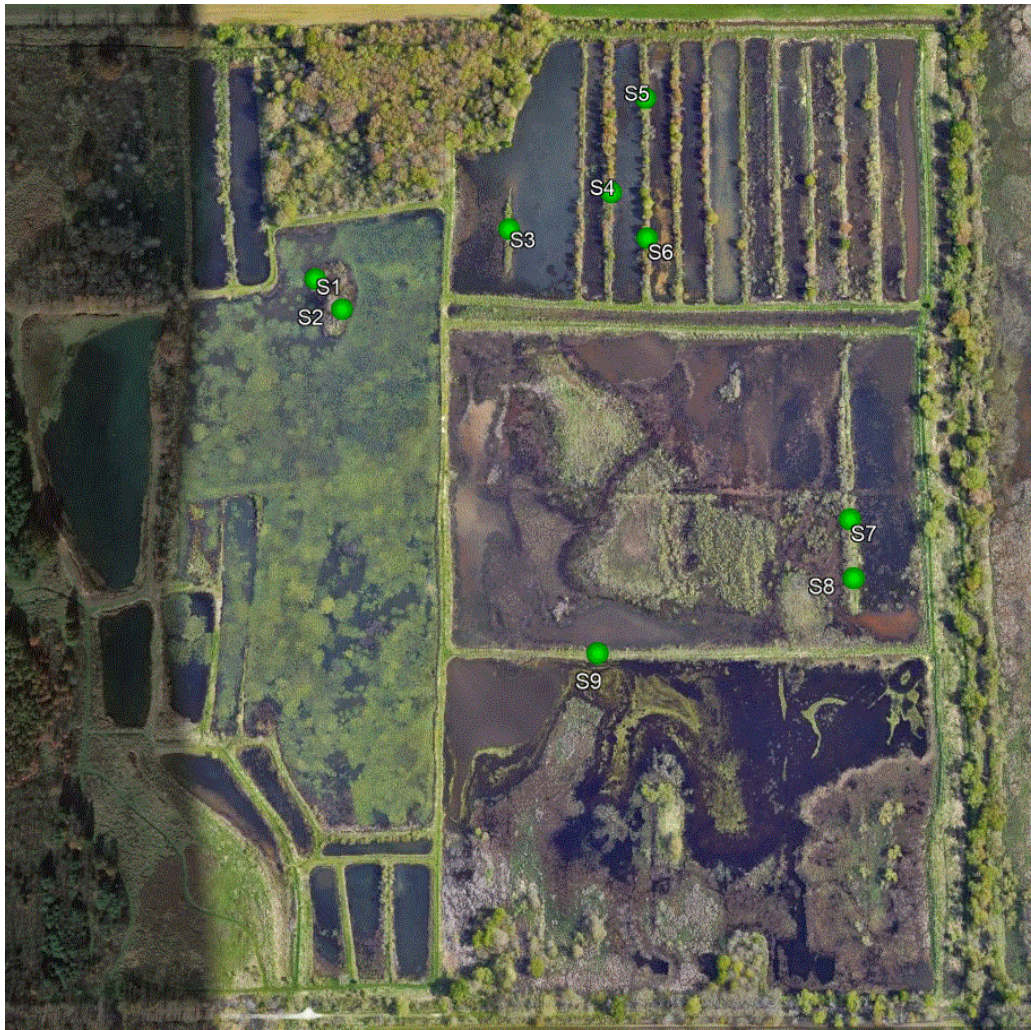


Figure 5. Canada goose nest locations (green icons) at the Wildlife Sanctuary, 2023.

Attachment 1. Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, 13 March-01 June 2023. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; G=Glacier Lake; C=Cohasset Lake; Y=Yellow Creek Park)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest
N1	41.05399	-80.67867	5
N2	41.05429	-80.67873	5
N3	41.05447	-80.67842	6
N4	41.05333	-80.67705	6
N5	41.0541	-80.67748	4
N6	41.05379	-80.67677	6
N7	41.05408	-80.6769	9
N8	41.05437	-80.6774	10
N9	41.05434	-80.67686	6
N10	41.05441	-80.67709	1
N11	41.05382	-80.67587	11
N12	41.05217	-80.67553	8
N13	41.05438	-80.67699	5
N14	41.05461	-80.67705	5
N15	41.05429	-80.67577	5
N16	41.05073	-80.67791	6
N17	41.05358	-80.67722	6
C1	41.07854	-80.68805	6
G1	41.1014	-80.67225	5
G2	41.10088	-80.67215	5
G4	41.08973	-80.67499	3
Y1	41.05494	-80.58896	8
Y2	41.05354	-80.5897	7

Attachment 1 (cont'd). Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests surveyed by Wildlife Services, 13 March-01 June 2023. (N=Newport Wetlands; S=Wildlife Sanctuary; G=Glacier Lake; C=Cohasset Lake; Y=Yellow Creek Park)

Nest ID	Latitude	Longitude	# Eggs in Nest
S1	40.97925	-80.69539	6
S2	40.97901	-80.69509	4
S3	40.97967	-80.69328	5
S4	40.97999	-80.69218	5
S5	40.98079	-80.69179	7
S6	40.97961	-80.6918	4
S7	40.97729	-80.68966	5
S8	40.97681	-80.68964	6
S9	40.97622	-80.69234	3



August 2, 2024

Nick Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between April 15 and May 31, 2024, WS conducted a total of 7 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at one park-owned site. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2024 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2024 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damages associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014, the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 13 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, and 3**) and treated 46 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Cohasset Lake, and Glacier Lake sites during the 2024 nesting season. Additionally, WS located 1 active nest (**Figure 4**) and 7 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active nest located (**Attachment 1**). For the 2024 management season there was an average of 3.7 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas.

When compared to the 2021 efforts, the total number of goose nests located in 2024 was comparable, but the number of eggs located had decreased slightly. When compared to the 2022 and 2023 efforts, the overall number of goose nests and eggs located in 2024 had decreased significantly, (**Table 1**). This could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest management by WS. Below is the list of management locations during the 2024 Canada goose nesting season for Mill Creek Metro Parks.

Glacier Lake

One nest was located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. A second nest was observed at the dam on Glacier Lake but was left untreated because of safety concerns with accessing the nest. It was monitored for several weeks, and the goslings hatched in early May. One other pair with goslings was observed on Glacier Lake in late April. **(Figure 1)**

Newport Wetlands

Newport Wetlands had the most Canada goose nesting activity. Nine nests were found and treated. There were 4 depredated nests found throughout the time of nesting season in 2024, and most nests that were treated were later depredated by wildlife. **(Figure 2)**

Cohasset Lake

Two nests were located and treated on Cohasset Lake. **(Figure 3)**

Lily Pond

No activity found at this location for the 2024 season.

Sanctuary

One nest was located at the Sanctuary. The total number of adult geese observed at the Sanctuary during the weekly site visits was thirty-two individuals. During the last couple of visits, four pairs of adults were observed with thirty goslings in total. **(Figure 4)**

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is

important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.

- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued, it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1: A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2021		2022		2023		2024	
Site	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	eggs
Newport Wetlands	4	19	13	80	17	104	9	33
Lily Pond	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cohasset Lake	1	5	1	6	1	6	2	8
Glacier Lake	2	11	3	13	3	13	1	5
Wildlife Sanctuary	4*	23*	5*	26*	9*	45*	1*	7*
Total Treated	8	39	19	112	23	138	12	46
Total Located	12*	62*	24*	138*	32*	183*	13*	53*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2021-2024 season. The numbers for the Wildlife Sanctuary are shown here for comparative purposes only



Figure 1: Canada goose treated nest (red icon) and untreated nest (yellow icon) at Glacier Lake, 2024.



Figure 2: Canada goose nest locations (yellow icon) at Newport Wetlands 2024.



Figure 3: Canada goose nest locations (yellow icon) at Cohasset Lake 2024.



Figure 4: Canada goose nest locations (red icon) at the Wildlife Sanctuary 2024.

Attachment 1: Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests located by Wildlife Services, April 15-May 31, 2024.

NEST ID	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	# EGGS
1	41.05079	-80.67787	5
2	41.05461	-80.67704	2
3	41.05441	-80.67704	4
4	41.05435	-80.67738	3
5	41.05415	-80.67879	4
6	41.05306	-80.67714	3
7*	41.09781	-80.67440	4*
8	41.05212	-80.67533	5
9	41.05370	-80.67546	3
10	41.05462	-80.67707	4
11	41.07854	-80.68805	3
12	41.07214	-80.68796	5
13	41.08900	-80.67449	3

*Nest was not treated due to safety concerns



June 3, 2025

Nick Derico,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between March 28 and May 16, 2025, WS conducted a total of 8 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees added Canada goose eggs at two park-owned sites. Egg adding was conducted in accordance with the approved 2025 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit, which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2025 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damage associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014, the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 23 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4**) and treated 110 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Cohasset Lake, Glacier Lake, and Yellow Creek sites between March 28 and May 16, 2025. WS did not locate any active nests at the Wildlife Sanctuary. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active nest located (**Attachment 1**). For the 2025 management season there was an average of 4.8 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas.

When compared to the 2021 and 2024 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs treated was significantly more. There were more nests treated in 2025 than in 2022, however, they had approximately the same number of eggs. When compared to 2023, the total number of nests treated was the same in 2025, but the total number of eggs treated was less (**Table 1**). This could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest management by WS. Below is the list of management locations during the 2025 Canada goose nesting season for Mill Creek Metro Parks.

Glacier Lake

Two nests were located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. **(Figure 1)**

Newport Wetlands

Newport Wetlands had the most Canada goose nesting activity, with seventeen nests located and treated **(Figure 2)**. Two pairs of geese were spotted with a total of 9 goslings later in the season.

Cohasset Lake

Two nests were located and treated on Cohasset Lake. **(Figure 3)**

Yellow Creek

One nest was located and treated at Yellow Creek **(Figure 4)**. Two pairs of geese were seen with a total of 8 goslings.

Lily Pond

No activity found at this location for the 2025 season.

Sanctuary

Zero nests were located at the Sanctuary. The total number of adult geese observed at the Sanctuary during the weekly site visits was forty individuals. During the last couple of visits, four pairs of adults were observed with twenty-eight goslings in total.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.

- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued, it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.
- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1: A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
Site	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	4	19	13	80	17	104	9	33	17	84
Lily Pond	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cohasset Lake	1	5	1	6	1	6	2	8	2	10
Glacier Lake	2	11	3	13	3	13	1	5	3	9
Wildlife Sanctuary	4*	23*	5*	26*	9*	45*	1*	7*	0*	0*
Yellow Creek**	0**	0**	2	13	2	15	0**	0**	1	7
Total Treated	8	39	19	112	23	138	12	46	23	110
Total Located	12*	62*	24*	138*	32*	183*	13*	53*	23***	110***

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2021-2025 season. The numbers for the Wildlife Sanctuary are shown here for comparative purposes only

**Nest treatments did not occur at Yellow Creek for the 2021 and 2024 seasons.

***No nests were found at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2025 season



Figure 1: Canada goose treated nest (red icons) at Glacier Lake, 2025.



Figure 2: Canada goose nest locations (red icons) at Newport Wetlands 2025.

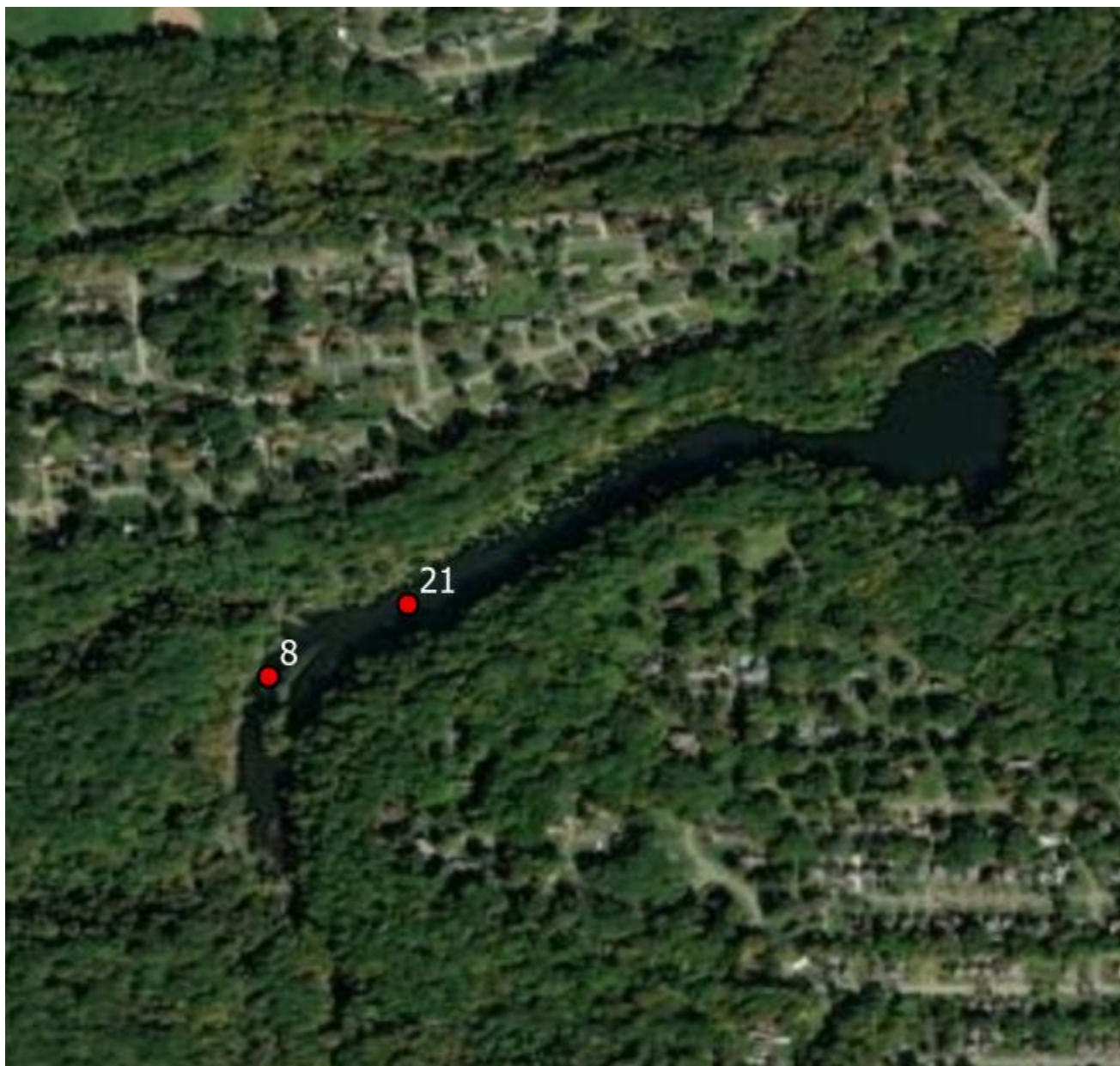


Figure 3: Canada goose nest locations (red icons) at Cohasset Lake 2025.

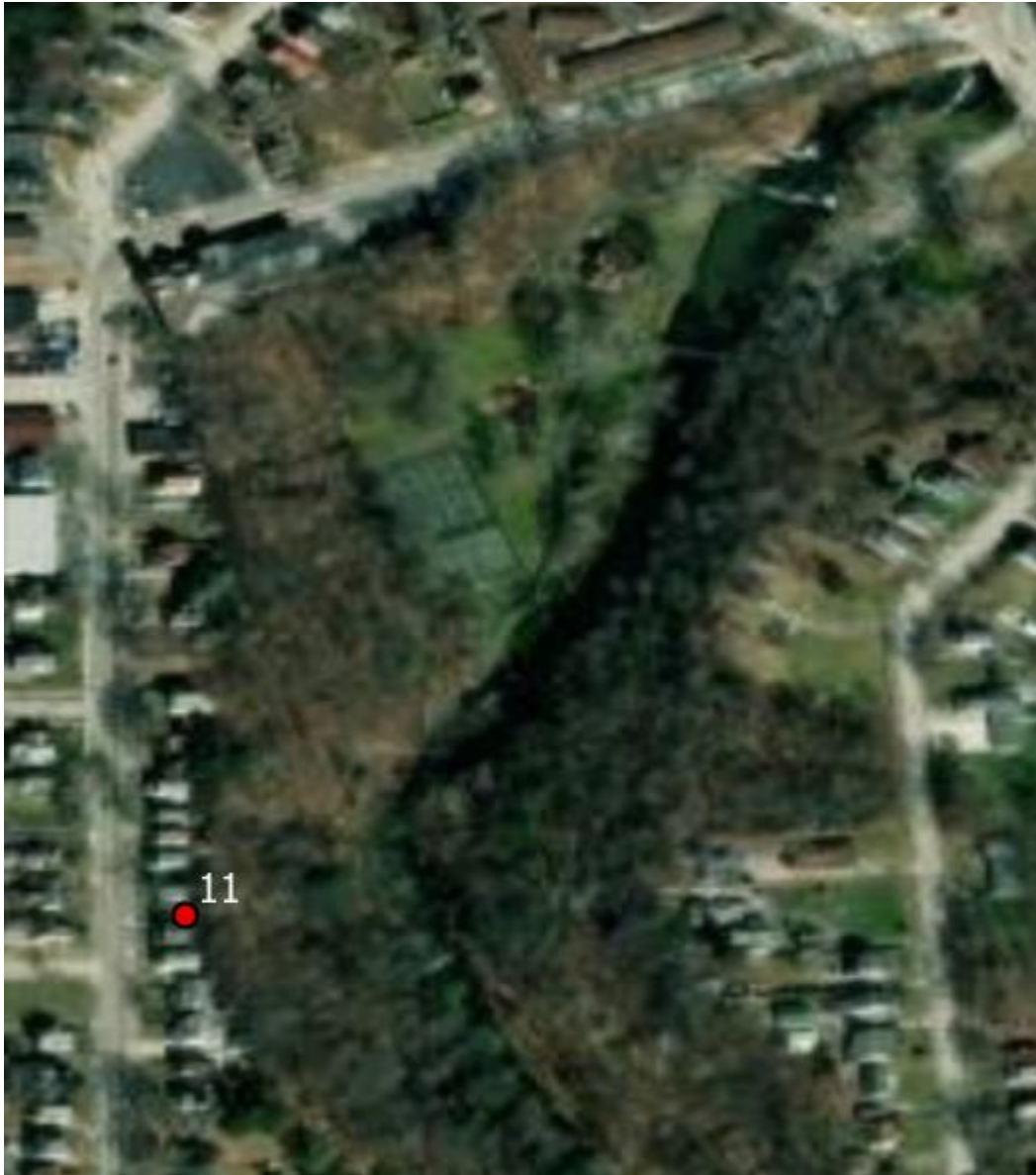


Figure 4: Canada goose nest locations (red icon) at Yellow Creek 2025.

Attachment 1: Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests located by Wildlife Services, March 28-May 31, 2025.

NEST ID	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	# EGGS
1	41.05056	-80.6784	6
2	41.05411	-80.6789	9
3	41.06447	-80.6779	6
4	41.05428	-80.6768	5
5	41.05436	-80.6774	4
6	41.05317	-80.678	3
7	41.05349	-80.6772	7
8	41.07862	-80.6882	5
9	41.08898	-80.6745	3
10	41.09285	-80.6763	2
11	41.05191	-80.5915	7
12	41.05357	-80.676	1
13	41.05452	-80.6768	6
14	41.05447	-80.6771	4
15	41.05144	-80.6755	4
16	41.05314	-80.6755	4
17	41.09793	-80.6743	4
18	41.05449	-80.6768	5
19	41.05442	-80.6774	5
20	41.05459	-80.6771	5
21	41.07938	-80.6868	5
22	41.05438	-80.677	1
23	41.0542	-80.6773	5



June 18, 2026

Rachel Sobnosky,

Thank you for contacting Wildlife Services (WS) for assistance in reducing damage from resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*). Between March 30 and May 11, 2026, WS conducted a total of 5 site visits to Mill Creek MetroParks (MCMP) property. Wildlife Services employees addled Canada goose eggs at two park-owned sites. Egg addling was conducted in accordance with the approved 2026 Ohio Division of Wildlife nest destruction permit (**Attachment 2**), which was obtained by MCMP. Nesting surveys were also conducted at the Wildlife Sanctuary, however at the request of the MCMP, nests and eggs were not treated at this site during the 2026 nesting season.

Mill Creek MetroParks have been managing the damage associated with a growing goose population since 2010. In 2014, the goose population at MCMP exceeded sociological carrying capacity and as a result a roundup of geese was completed to reduce the impacts to park facilities and water quality. As expected, in 2015 there were significantly lower numbers of nests and eggs due to the 2014 round up.

In total, WS located 7 active nests (**Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4**) and treated 36 eggs at the Newport Wetlands, Cohasset Lake, Glacier Lake, and Yellow Creek sites between March 30 and May 11, 2026. WS located 4 active nests and 21 eggs at the Wildlife Sanctuary. A global positioning system (GPS) coordinate was obtained for each active nest located (**Attachment 1**). For the 2026 management season there was an average of 5.1 eggs treated per active nest in the management areas.

When compared to the 2022, 2023, and 2025 efforts, the total number of goose nests and eggs treated was significantly less. There were more nests located in 2026 at the Wildlife Sanctuary than 2024 and 2025 (**Table 1**). This reduction in nesting activity found could be attributed to several factors including environmental causes, changes in management activities at the park, as well as long-term nest management by WS. Below is the list of management locations during the 2026 Canada goose nesting season for Mill Creek Metro Parks.

Glacier Lake

One nest was located and treated at Glacier Lake by WS. **(Figure 1)**

Newport Wetlands

Newport Wetlands had two nests located and treated **(Figure 2)**. One pair of geese was spotted later in the season with 7 goslings.

Cohasset Lake

Two nests were located and treated on Cohasset Lake. **(Figure 3)**

Yellow Creek

Two nests were located and treated at Yellow Creek **(Figure 4)**. Five pairs of geese were spotted with 31 goslings between them at the end of the season

Lily Pond

No activity found at this location for the 2026 season.

Sanctuary

Four nests and a total of 31 eggs were located at the Sanctuary. The total number of adult geese observed at the Sanctuary during the weekly site visits was forty individuals.

Although treatments are occurring on MCMP property, there is always potential for geese to nest on neighboring properties and subsequently move onto MCMP property. Wildlife Services personnel strive to locate and treat as many nests as possible on MCMP property, but the size and complexity of the river system makes detection of all nests on MCMP property difficult to achieve. Wildlife Services encourages the help and continued cooperation of MCMP staff in reporting nesting pairs and potential nesting areas to optimize management efforts.

Because habitat features attracting Canada geese are found on MCMP properties, it is realistic to expect that geese will continue to utilize these areas. Therefore, it is recommended that the following methods to reduce Canada goose damage continue as part of an integrated Canada goose damage management plan at your location:

- Harassment activities in areas where geese are not desired should continue and must be implemented immediately when geese are present for maximum effectiveness. Harassment may include the use of loud noises, chasing on foot or with vehicles, pyrotechnics, dogs, etc. It is important to be persistent and proactive with harassment efforts to ensure that geese do not become established in large numbers. Please remember to check with your local authorities to ensure that these tools or techniques are legal to use in your area.
- The unlawful act of feeding geese or other waterfowl by the public should be actively enforced. Signs stating that feeding of waterfowl is prohibited have been posted in public and common areas. With posted signs already in place, it is recommended that

enforcement be pursued especially with repeat offenders until feeding is discontinued. If feeding is not discontinued, it should be expected that large numbers of geese will reestablish in a short period of time causing additional damage.

- Egg addling/nest destruction of Canada goose nests should be continued and pursued aggressively. Predators cannot be relied upon to find and destroy all nests, while treatment of eggs will ensure that eggs found in the management areas will be unsuccessful. In Ohio, geese begin to nest as early as late February and can continue through May 31, so MCMP staff should be vigilant during these times and nests should be treated during the entire nesting season to prevent hatching. Permits for egg addling/nest destruction can be obtained through the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact our office at 330-726-3386.

Table 1: A comparison of the number of active Canada goose nests located and the number of eggs treated on MCMP owned and managed property.

Year	2022		2023		2024		2025		2026	
Site	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs
Newport Wetlands	13	80	17	104	9	33	17	84	2	10
Lily Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cohasset Lake	1	6	1	6	2	8	2	10	2	10
Glacier Lake	3	13	3	13	1	5	3	9	1	4
Wildlife Sanctuary	5*	26*	9*	45*	1*	7*	0*	0*	4*	21*
Yellow Creek**	2	13	2	15	0**	0**	1	7	2	12
Total Treated	19	112	23	138	12	46	23	110	7	36
Total Located	24*	138*	32*	183*	13*	53*	23***	110***	11*	57*

*Nest treatments did not occur at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2021-2026 season. The numbers for the Wildlife Sanctuary are shown here for comparative purposes only

**Nest treatments did not occur at Yellow Creek for the 2024 seasons.

***No nests were found at the Wildlife Sanctuary for the 2025 season



Figure 1: Canada goose treated nest (red icons) at Glacier Lake, 2026.



Figure 2: Canada goose nest locations (red icons) at Newport Wetlands 2026.



Figure 3: Canada goose nest locations (red icons) at Cohasset Lake 2026.

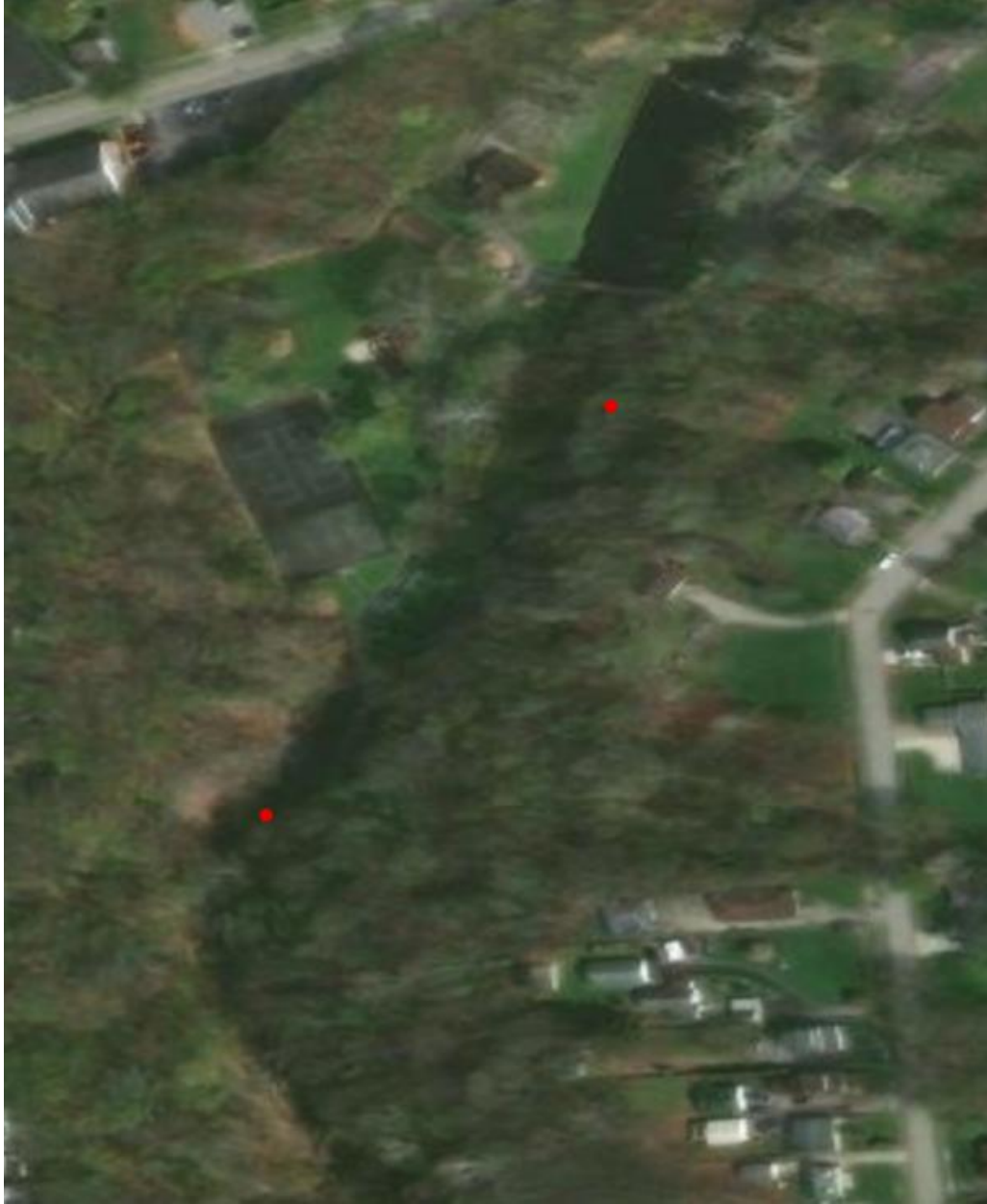


Figure 4: Canada goose nest locations (red icon) at Yellow Creek 2026.

Attachment 1: Locations (Latitude and Longitude) of Canada goose nests treated by Wildlife Services, March 30-May 31, 2026.

NEST ID	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	# EGGS
1	41.06441	-80.67795	6
2	41.07853	-80.68803	3
3	41.05240	-80.59063	6
4	41.05203	-80.67553	4
5	41.08899	-80.67457	4
6	41.05364	-80.58958	6
7	41.07828	-80.68821	7