## Don't Feed The Geese!

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Canada Geese are without a doubt, beautiful birds, and they are a federally protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Yet, studies suggest that large populations of Canada Geese contribute to water pollution problems, specifically, through the introduction of pathogens and bacteria by the washing of fecal matter (AKA Goose Poo) into water bodies by storm water run off.

Luckily, there are quite a few ways to deal with Goose induced pollution without harming the birds. Geese like well manicured, open banks. So, planting shrubs and allowing native grasses to grow by the water is an aesthetically pleasing way to reduce population presence.

Also, hand feeding encourages Geese to stay in one place and acclimatizes them to the presence of humans. So, the next time you're out and about, remember to help reduce water pollution and don't feed the Geese!



Signs like this one are reminders that birds, even in urban parks, are wild animals and are perfectly capable of finding their own meals.

