

ALL ABOUT ANIMALS

Canada geese can become a nuisance

I live near a pond and find the Canada geese congregating in my yard and becoming a nuisance. How can I keep them off my property?

Throughout the metro Detroit area, the giant Canada geese are common especially around golf courses and lake-front communities. Although many people find them beautiful and enjoy their presence, they can become bothersome when they congregate on your property. The most basic way to discourage them is to not feed the geese. If this fails there are several ways to deter them:

1. Because they are grass eaters and prefer short-clipped, fertilized grass, let the grass near the water's edge grow up to 10 inches high to provide rough cover, which the birds don't like.
2. Place perimeter fencing about two feet high along the water's edge or use panels in beach areas.
3. Allow the geese to occupy space that you don't care about, thereby keeping them out of other areas.
4. Apply ReJex-It, a grape extract whose taste repels birds, to the grass.

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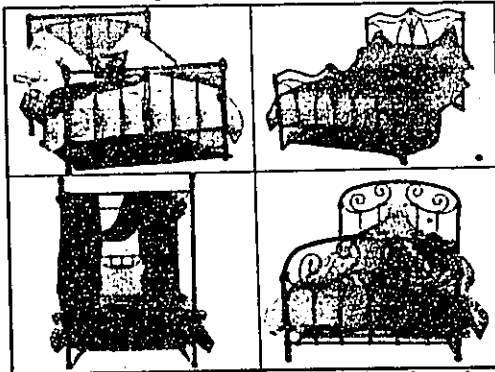
ReJex-It isn't available in stores, but can be ordered by calling (800) HAD-BIRD.

If all else fails, contact a professional agency.

Mail questions to: All About Animals, Michele Mitchell, Michigan Humane Society, 7401 Chrysler Drive, Detroit 48221. Mitchell is community relations director for the private, non-profit agency, dedicated to serving animals since 1877. It operates three full-service shelters and charitable veterinary hospitals in the metro area.

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