

# CITY OF WOODLAND COUNCIL POLICIES

## CHAPTER 4 – NATURAL RESOURCES

### POLICY 4-3 – GEESE MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### LOCALITY AND HABITAT

The City of Woodland has numerous miles of shoreline on the southern shore of Wayzata Bay. The habitat for geese and other waterfowl is along privately owned lakeshore properties on Lake Minnetonka, Lake Marion, and Shavers Lake (see attached maps). The habitat of geese and other waterfowl is along privately owned lakeshore properties on Lake Minnetonka, Lake Marion, and Shavers Lake. As a result, there is a highly receptive Canada goose nesting and brood rearing habitat in Woodland. Low natural predation, no hunting, and abundant food resources (the lush green grass areas) create an ideal environment for high reproduction and survival. The challenge is to maintain an acceptable population level of geese through a management policy.

#### PURPOSE

To establish a City policy that will assist residents in meeting the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) requirements for the removal of resident/non-migratory geese from private property within the City of Woodland.

#### EDUCATION

The City of Woodland will inform citizens of the management plan objectives, background, management and policies through the City website. A copy of a Technical Guide on Managing Canada Geese in Urban Environments will be made available on the City's website. This is a publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension, the University of Wisconsin, The Jack H.

Berryman Institute, Utah State University, and the Wildlife Society. This publication is available from Cornell University on-line at: <http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/66>

A copy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Section, Homeowners' Guide to Goose Problems will also be available for review on the City's website. This document is available on-line at:

[http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/backyard/privatelandsprogram/geese\\_control\\_homeowners.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/backyard/privatelandsprogram/geese_control_homeowners.pdf)

#### PRIVATE PROPERTY

The City of Woodland will inform citizens of Canada Goose management techniques that may be employed to control the impact of geese on private property through the City's website.

Private property owners are required to contact MnDNR approved Canada Goose management companies to help with goose problems, including removal of problem geese. The resident or management company shall apply for the permit through the City of Woodland. The City of Woodland will not pay for removal or control costs on private property. Removal or control costs will be entirely at the private property owner's expense.

## POPULATION

Given the extensive amount of shoreline in the City at approximately 5.9 miles, the City estimates the goose population to be 200 to 300 geese spread along the shoreline.

## PROCEDURE

1. Any removal of geese shall be carried out by a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources approved service.
2. Private property owners shall complete the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources application for geese removal and submit the application to the City.
3. The City will forward the application to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
4. For private property owners with recurring conflicts, the City may require the applicant to develop and submit a long-term geese management plan to the City.
5. All costs for the removal of geese shall be borne by the property owner.

Attachments: City of Woodland Street Map  
Location of the City of Woodland on Lake Minnetonka

Adopted by the Woodland City Council on July 11, 2016  
Resolution No. 17-2016