

US Issues Permits to Kill 7,200 Canada Geese and 3,500 Other Birds on Long Island and across NY State

1,250 Canada geese at LI state parks, 300 geese at Old Westbury Gardens, 200 geese at 1111 Marcus Ave., 100 geese at Colonial Springs Golf Course, E Farmingdale, 75 geese at SUNY Stony Brook, 70 at Fisher's Island Golf Course, etc.

see **Planet-in-Peril.org**
for Petitions & More Information

7/2/13 – We obtained Federal permits revealing permission to kill thousands of protected birds across NY state and on Long Island that were previously undisclosed despite the massive public attention to the since-cancelled goose roundup planned in the Town of North Hempstead in May.

Besides the Canada geese permits, others permits given to the US Department of Agriculture “**Wildlife Services**” agency allow the killing of 3,500 other birds in 90 species in New York, including **mallard ducks, egrets, osprey, owls, woodpeckers, sparrows, cardinals** etc. (*details at Planet-in-Peril.org.*)

Long Island State Parks listed in the geese-killing permits include **Hempstead Lake, Bethpage, Caleb Smith, Connetquot, Caumsett, Heckscher, Jones Beach, Sunken Meadow, Belmont Lake, Bayard Arboretum**, and the **Wantagh, Meadowbrook, and Northern State** parkways. (State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, Regional HQ, Tel. **(631) 669-1000**).

State officials have claimed to **News12** that they have no “present” plans to kill any birds, but they **refuse** to guarantee that will not change or agree to inform the public if it does. They have however acknowledged that killings are still being contemplated at the massive forest-lined lake at **Hempstead Lake State Park**.

Some of the other current Canada-geese killing permits are held by: **Colonial Springs Golf Course, E Farmingdale (100 geese)** Tel (631) 643-1050; **Swan Lake Golf Course, Manorville (40 geese)** Tel. (631) 369-1818; **Fisher's Island Golf Course, Fishers Island LI, (70 geese)** Tel (631) 788-7221, **Rechler Equity Mgmt.** in Melville.

HELP stop the killings. At **Planet-in-Peril.org** are links to two online **petitions to Governor Cuomo**. Call and write your **state** and **federal** legislators. *The largest potential roundups here are conducted by the US Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services agency.* Also let the individual permit holders listed here and on the website know if you oppose their proposed killings.

8. NAME AND TITLE OF PRINCIPAL OFFICER <i>(If #1 is a business)</i> MICHAEL CORBISIERO SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR	9. TYPE OF PERMIT DEPREDAATION	6. EFFECTIVE 09/01/2012	7. EXPIRES 08/31/2013
10. LOCATION WHERE AUTHORIZED ACTIVITY MAY BE CONDUCTED Bethpage State Park; Hempstead Lake State Park; Caleb Smith State Park; Connetquot River State Park; Caumset State Park; Heckscher State Park; Jones Beach State Park; Gov. Alfred E. Smith/Sunken Meadow State Park; Belmont Lake State Park; Bayard Cutting Arboretum State Park; Wantagh, Meadowbrook and Northern State			
11. CONDITIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS: A. GENERAL CONDITIONS SET OUT IN SUBPART D OF 50 CFR 13, AND SPECIFIC CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN FEDERAL REGULATIONS CITED IN BLOCK #2 ABOVE, ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THIS PERMIT. ALL ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED HEREIN MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORD WITH AND FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED. CONTINUED VALIDITY, OR RENEWAL, OF THIS PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO COMPLETE AND TIMELY COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE CONDITIONS, INCLUDING THE FILING OF ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION AND REPORTS. B. THE VALIDITY OF THIS PERMIT IS ALSO CONDITIONED UPON STRICT OBSERVANCE OF ALL APPLICABLE FOREIGN, STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL, OR OTHER FEDERAL LAW. C. VALID FOR USE BY PERMITTEE NAMED ABOVE. D. You are authorized to capture up to 1,250 Canada geese from ALL locations combined, and either (1) transport these geese to a processing center, slaughter, and donate the meat to a local food bank; or (2) euthanize* these geese and completely destroy by burial or incineration.			

Why it is *futile* and *inhumane* to kill the geese and other birds:

1. There are far more humane alternatives to killing. As shown in the *Town of North Hempstead*, the *Villages of Scarsdale* and *Mamaroneck* in May, the public opposes wildlife killing when sensible non-lethal alternatives exist to keep parks clean and geese away. (Cleaning machines are available, landscaping can be modified to discourage the geese, and far more people tolerate them than want to see them killed.)
2. It doesn't solve the problem. "Nature abhors a vacuum." Geese or other birds will always come back when the habitat is there for them. Geese have been here for thousands of years, and will not go away unless they are all wiped out, which is not what is a practical, reasonable, or humane option.
3. Aviation safety is not improved by killing geese. As researched and substantiated by the major animal protection group GoosewatchNYC.com, geese account for only 5% of bird strikes to airplanes, most strikes are highly survivable, and most strikes involve migrating birds high in the sky, not resident ones. GoosewatchNYC and other groups held a press conference last week in New York City and heard from a retired FAA safety expert who supported their arguments.
4. The process of killing is torturous. Killing geese involves shotguns or suffocation; these birds dive underwater and need less oxygen, so they may require over 15 minutes of oxygen deprivation to suffocate; it is slow and painful. Other techniques to kill the birds -- like owls, osprey, ravens, cardinals, and sparrow -- include poisoning and lethal traps.
5. Get informed. Visit **GoosewatchNYC.com** and see **Friends of Animals**, how to live in harmony with geese: <http://friendsofanimals.org/sites/default/files/kcfinder/files/Goose%20Habitat.pdf>