



Spring 2022



## **Help Keep Giant Canada Geese Off Our Lakes!**

Dear Shore Owners,

Like many communities around the country, Lake Placid is experiencing a profusion of the giant subspecies of Canada Geese taking up residence on our waters.

**These Canada Geese pose a serious health risk, polluting the shorelines and threatening our water quality.** In the past two years, they have found our lakes to be a suitable habitat for nesting and raising their young. You may have noticed their growing numbers and their pattern of moving between Mirror Lake, Mill Pond, and Lake Placid Lake throughout the day.

The giant Canada Goose can grow to 20 pounds and defecates approximately every 20 minutes, creating up to two pounds of waste in 24 hours. This can cause algal blooms and an increased risk of severe illness from *E. coli*. In five years, three pairs of geese can multiply to 50 birds.

Mirror Lake and Mill Pond's small size puts them at serious risk, and Lake Placid's physical features make it an attractive breeding ground. For all three, the shorelines are being fouled. Because all species of Canada Geese are protected by federal law, stopping the proliferation of the giant Canada Geese will require multiple strategies and a coordinated effort from shore owners of Mirror Lake, Mill Pond, and Lake Placid. Please do all you can.

Thanks in advance from,

Mirror Lake Watershed Association & Lake Placid Shore Owners' Association

**Do Not Feed The Geese** If you rent, please inform your tenants.

**Do Not Use Fertilizer** Fertilized grass, besides being a threat to water quality, is especially attractive to Canada Geese.

**Plant Native Trees & Shrubs For Less Open Space** Geese love grazing on open lawns near a body of water with a good line of sight and an easy getaway.

**Create A Natural Buffer Zone** of native plants and shrubs along the shoreline (10' is required by our Land Use Code). A buffer zone makes it difficult for geese to enter and exit the water. It also diminishes shoreline erosion and prevents road salt and other toxic chemicals from polluting the lake.

**For Additional Methods, Go To:** <https://www.mirrorlake.net/canada-geese>