



Canada Goose Agricultural Depredation Permit Signatory Form

Effective September 11, 2006, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service implemented new regulations concerning the management of nuisance resident Canada geese. These new regulations authorize more aggressive means for the alleviation of problems associated with resident Canada geese. One piece of this new regulation concerns agricultural damage.

In order to prevent current or future agriculture depredation from occurring, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) is implementing a management program that allows persons actively involved in commercial agriculture (**actual or potential gross annual income of \$2,500 or more from the commercial cultivated production of livestock and poultry, grain, forage, fruit, vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants, or Christmas trees**) to conduct lethal resident Canada goose damage management actions. These management actions include the destruction of resident Canada goose nests and eggs and the take of resident Canada geese.

The CT DEEP has developed a permitting system to administer this resident Canada goose management program. Upon receipt and review of a completed permit application and signatory page, permits will be issued to affected agriculture producers.

The following guidelines must be adhered to by permit holders:

- (1) Only landowners, operators, and tenants (or their employees or agents) actively engaged in commercial activities (agricultural producers) so designated by the State of Connecticut may act under this order. **If you lease land, the primary landowner must possess a permit, with you listed as one of the designated agents if control activities are to occur on the leased land.**
- (2) Resident Canada geese may be taken only on land that an authorized agricultural producer personally controls and where resident Canada geese are or may be committing agricultural crop depredation.
- (3) Methods of take for the control of resident Canada geese are limited to the following methods:

<u>Management Action</u>	<u>Dates Activities May Occur</u>
Egg oiling ^A	March 1 to June 30
Egg and nest destruction ^A	March 1 to June 30
Take by shotgun ^B	May 1 to August 31

^{A)} Persons using egg oiling must use 100% corn oil, a substance exempted from regulation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

All techniques used must be in accordance with other federal, state, and local laws and their use must comply with any labeling restrictions.

^{B)} **Designated agents ARE REQUIRED to possess a valid Connecticut hunting license and Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp;** however landowners, when shooting on their own property and not acting as an agent on leased land, are exempt from these requirements.

Authorized agricultural producers and their employees and agents, operating under the provisions of this permit may not use decoys, calls, or other devices to lure birds within gun range.

Only the following shot shall be used: non-toxic steel shot no larger than BB steel, or any other federally-approved non-toxic shot type, such as bismuth-tin alloy, tungsten iron, tungsten polymer, tungsten matrix; or tungsten-nickel-iron (Hevishot) shot no larger than #2. No person may possess lead shot while acting under this depredation order.

Shooting or carrying of loaded firearms within 500 feet of any building occupied by people or domestic animals or used for storage of flammable material, or within 250 feet of such buildings when shooting in tidal areas is prohibited, unless written permission from lesser distances is obtained from the owner and carried. Landowners are exempt from this restriction, providing any building involved is their own.

Shooting toward any person, building, or domestic animal when within range is prohibited.

(4) Authorized agricultural producers and their employees and agents may possess, transport, and otherwise dispose of resident Canada geese taken under this permit. Disposal of birds taken under this order may only be by burial or incineration. Agricultural producers, their employees, and designated agents may not sell, offer for sale, barter, or ship any resident Canada geese taken under this permit, nor their plumage or eggs.

Information on birds carrying metal leg bands, plastic neck collars, or tarsus bands must be submitted to the Bird Banding Laboratory via the internet www.reportband.gov.

(5) This regulation does not authorize the killing of any migratory bird species or destruction of their nests or eggs other than resident Canada geese.

(6) Authorized agricultural producers may not undertake any actions under this section if the activities adversely affect other migratory birds or species designated as endangered or threatened under the authority of the Endangered Species Act. To protect certain species from being adversely affected by these authorized management actions, agricultural producers must follow all Regional (or National when available) Bald Eagle Nesting Management guidelines for all management activities.

(7) Any authorized agricultural producer exercising the privileges of this permit must keep and maintain the **Connecticut Agricultural Depredation Annual Permit and Report** that indicates the date, location, number of eggs added, and the number of geese taken under this authorization. The Annual Permit and Report must be maintained from March 1 – August 31 of each calendar year and submitted no later than September 30 of the same year the permit was issued to the following address:

CT DEEP, Kelly Kubik, 391 Route 32, North Franklin, CT 06254, kelly.kubik@ct.gov

The log and any related records must be made available to federal, state, or tribal wildlife law enforcement officers upon request during normal business hours of the calendar year that the permit was issued. The log must be maintained for a period of 3 years (and records for 3 previous years of takings must be maintained at all times thereafter).

By signing this document you are indicating that you fully understand its contents and will adhere to all the rules and regulations of the permit.

Permittee Signature: _____

Permittee Name (Print): _____

Date: _____