



# CANADA GEESE PROTECTION COLORADO



Photos by Merri Crawford

## Denver Parks & Rec Oversees Garland Park Round-Up of Canada Geese in Early Morning Hours of July 10th

In the pre-dawn hours of Friday, July 10, 2020, Denver Parks and Recreation and the USDA Wildlife Services herded Denver's Canada geese out of the water, corralled them tightly in fences, picked them up by their necks and wings, stuffed them into crates, and trucked them off to be slaughtered. Canada Geese Protection Colorado members and members of the public bore witness to this unnecessary act at Garland Park. While the video linked below and the photo to the right are difficult to look at, and have not been edited for language, we believe it is important to see what is being done with their money, by their government, in their city parks. The culling of geese in this manner is



root of so many of these various problems is a lack of transparency on the part of our city, a lack of any meaningful engagement with the public on issues of common concern, and an ongoing suppression of the public voice. Our city needs to listen to

indiscriminate--it is separating families of geese. Geese mate for life. After the roundup, juveniles, (geese born this year) were seen wandering alone, their parents having been taken. Or, in some cases, one mate and one juvenile were left wandering looking for their mate and parent. Canada Geese Protection Colorado recognizes that there are numerous other, far more critical issues facing our city today, from the Covid-19 pandemic, to the economic disaster caused by it, to the long battle against police brutality and systemic racism, and more. Many of us, individually, fight for these causes and others. At the

its citizens, whether on this seemingly small issue or on big ones. There is no reason to kill geese in order to manage their population or clean our parks.

Likewise, if the city was concerned with helping those experiencing food insecurity, this is not the best use of Denverite's taxpayer dollars. We call for Mayor Hancock and Denver Parks and Recreation to be accountable to their own principles of transparency and public engagement, to hear us, and to work with us for humane management of the wildlife we all hold in common.

Link to YouTube video of roundup:  
**Garfield Park Roundup**

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## **Second Protest Reading at Parks & Rec Advisory Board (PRAB) Virtual Meeting - August 12th, 5:30PM-6:00PM**

Hi everyone! We are looking for 10 to 15 activists to participate during the next Parks and Recreations Advisory Board meeting where Canada Geese Protection Colorado will be speaking up about the inhumane treatment of Denver's Canada Geese.

You will be given two minutes to read a personal letter or share a peer's personal letter for those who can't attend, expressing any thoughts or emotions around the senseless Goose Management Program the City and County of Denver has implemented for the last two years. If you can't attend, we are also accepting letters that another activist can present in your place.



You will not have the option to use video while presenting your sentiments, just your voice. You will be verbally notified by someone on the Parks and Recreations Advisory Board when your two minutes have come to an end. It is a good idea to rehearse your presentation beforehand to ensure you are under the time limitation.

If you are interested in being part of this movement, please contact us immediately at [canadageeseprotectioncolorado@gmail.com](mailto:canadageeseprotectioncolorado@gmail.com) expressing your interest in speaking out for the animals who can't speak for themselves. We will have a FaceBook event where you can RSVP and add to your calendars as well, with any and all information that you need to know about attending the virtual meeting.

We are hoping to have more than enough people to fill the time allotted to us in this meeting so the more the merrier!

Thank you,  
The Canada Geese Protection Colorado Team



# Be heard!

## Denver City Council is listening

Share your ideas  
and concerns.

July 30 from 6-7 p.m.

Aug. 10 from noon-1 p.m.

Aug. 22 from 10-11 a.m.

*All sessions are on Zoom*



### A Message from Colorado's First Gentleman Marlon Reis

Please join me in sending a strong message to **City and County of Denver Government** officials that good science informs good policy, and there are numerous humane alternatives to killing Canada Geese across the city's municipal parks; that adopting these alternatives will save the city money at a time when funding is already stretched-thin due to efforts aimed at containing COVID-19; and that--as Coloradans--we want the Capital City of our great State to lead by example by serving as the gold standard when it comes to compassionate treatment of urban wildlife.



FIRST GENTLEMAN  
Marlon Reis

## Hi! I'm a Canada Goose! Let me tell you a little bit about myself.

- I'm loyal! I mate for life, protect my partner, and look after my goslings! If any of my family members get sick or injured, I stay by their side until they are ready to rejoin the flock.
- If my mate dies, I grieve alone. Some of us spend the rest of our lives as widows or widowers.
- I lay about 5 eggs per year and keep them warm in my nest for 30 days until they hatch.
- We're adept fliers, often travelling up to 1,500 miles during our yearly migrations.
- Why do we fly in a "V" formation? The Geese in front reduce air resistance for those of us behind. Flying in a "V" allows us to travel 70% farther as a group than if we flew alone.
- It might surprise you, but we feel pain and experience emotions just like dogs and cats. Just like you.
- A little over two weeks ago, the City and County of Denver rounded-up and killed many of my family and friends. We thought the people in Denver's parks liked us, but now we're not so sure. You might not have heard about it, because it happened before the sunrise, when everyone was still asleep. Please help us. We don't know why we're being punished.



### We'll get by with a little help from our friends...

In Defense of Animals, United Poultry Concerns, Dr. Marc Bekoff, and the First Gentleman of Colorado, Marlon Reis, all contributed to several massive action alert campaigns. It resulted in virtual meetings with Denver Parks & Rec and City Council members as well as with the Advisory Board of Parks & Rec. We hope new doors have been opened and that we are one step closer to stopping the "cull" of our geese in Denver Parks. [Listen here to the First Gentleman's conversation with Scott Gilmore.](#)

Our petition to cancel the killing contract with Wildlife Services has garnered more than 14,000 signatures to date.

We also had media coverage in the [Denverite](#) and on [CPR radio](#).



What are 'Lake Watch' groups?

We're organizing a new and exciting way you can help Denver's Canada Geese! This graphic is just a "teaser" and we'll have more information in a separate alert in coming days. But start thinking about how you can help our Geese through this interesting, new concept!



Canada Geese Protection Colorado LLC is an all-volunteer activist group dedicated to stopping the slaughter of wild geese, birds of prey, and other wild birds currently being killed by cities and municipalities in urban Colorado parks.



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