

MANAGING URBAN GEESE:

BRINGING the MINNESOTA EXPERIENCE to the ANACOSTIA

Featured Speaker: **Dr. Jim Cooper,**

...professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology. In the 1980's, Dr. Cooper, along with the Minnesota DNR, laid the research foundation for what has become the largest urban goose management program in the country. For the last 5 years, he has directed the *Canada Goose Project*, which provides research and consulting on goose management issues in Minnesota and other metropolitan areas.

August 25, 2005
10:00am – 3:00pm

***Where:* DC's new Aquatic Resources Education Center**
2600 Anacostia Drive, SE, Washington D.C.

The Education Center is next to the big Skating Pavilion in Anacostia Park, and is accessed off Pennsylvania Avenue immediately east of the river. Call 202-581-2565 for directions, or click [here](#)

Schedule:

10:00am - **Dr. Jim Cooper:** "Twenty Years of Managing Resident Geese in Minnesota"

10:45am - Short perspectives on the tidal Anacostia goose situation:

- **Dr. Dick Hammerschlag**, USGS, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
- **Peter Hill**, D.C. Environmental Health Administration, Watershed Protection Division
- **Steve Pugh**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore
- **Susan Rudy**, Resource Management, NPS/National Capital Parks-East

11:15 - **Question & Answer**

Noon - **Lunch** (Brown bag suggested. No eateries nearby.)

1:00-3:00pm - **Open Discussion:** **How do we best manage geese on the Anacostia?**

Background: In 2000, the DC government and Army Corps of Engineers spent \$5 million to restore a 40-acre wetland at Kingman Marsh, near RFK Stadium. Since then, that investment has been largely eaten by an overpopulation of resident Canada geese who have lost the urge to migrate, and left an impoverished wetland plant community in their wake. In response to wetland impacts by resident geese, a Goose Management Committee was formed to address the problem. This committee is a coalition of the District of Columbia, National Park Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, and the Anacostia Watershed Society. Actions taken by the Committee to manage goose impacts over the past three years have been: wire fences to protect the wetland plants from goose browsing, and an egg-addling program to curb the rise in the goose population. We are also conducting regular "goose counts" to monitor the population. Currently, the Committee is working on a goose management plan, which will be available for public comment and review.

For more info: Steve McKindley-Ward, Anacostia Watershed Society, 301-699-6204