# SAVE OUR SANDWELL CANADA GEESE

## Debunking myths about this wonderful bird



This leaflet aims to educate both misguided authorities and the public about goose behaviour.

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

A Canada goose stays with the same partner for life; they remain loyal and devoted to each other and, if one of them dies or is killed, the surviving partner will grieve and mourn.

Canada geese are extremely loving, caring and protective towards their young; they are perfect parents.

Canada geese have extremely strong family bonds; a V-formation of Canada geese in the sky is generally a family group.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE http://www.saveoursandwellcanadageese.org.uk/



<u>https://www.facebook.com/Save-Our-Sandwell-Canada-Geese-</u> 950337051658707/timeline/?ref=tn\_tnmn

#### **MYTH: "CANADA GEESE ARE AGGRESSIVE"**



**TRUTH:** When protecting their young or nests, geese will usually lower their necks and heads to the ground. However, they will NOT attack people unless provoked; this is no different from any other animal.

#### **MYTH: "THERE ARE TOO MANY GEESE"**

**TRUTH:** It is true that Canada geese may lay a clutch of 6 eggs or more, but it is not the case that every pair of geese lay eggs. Many goslings become food for other species and do not survive.

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#### MYTH: "GOOSE POO IS HARMFUL TO HUMANS"

**TRUTH:** Goose poo is mainly recycled grass. There are no proven studies where it has been found responsible for human ill health.

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#### **MYTH: "THEY ARE A THREAT TO OTHER SPECIES"**

TRUTH: Natural England's "Technical Information Note TIN009 The management of problems caused by Canada geese: a guide to best practice", states : "There is little hard evidence that Canada geese cause significant problems by competing directly with other wildlife. Aggressive confrontations do occur, and there is some evidence of other large waterfowl being excluded by, or excluding, Canada geese from a preferred breeding site. Such interactions are rare, however, and are thought to have little effect on the overall populations of other native waterfowl."

The pest control industry is largely responsible for the vilification of **Canada geese** because they earn money from slaughtering them. Sadly, some irresponsible and ill-informed organisations (including some local authorities) believe these lies; this then results in barbaric goose culls which further reinforce the widespread prejudice against the geese. We at **'Save Our Sandwell Canada Geese'** care passionately about the plight of these much-maligned and totally misunderstood creatures. Please help us by spreading some **LOVE** and the **TRUTH** about Canada geese. Thank you