

Canada Goose

Branta canadensis

Description

Most people in Calgary are familiar with the Canada Goose, although most of us do not realise that throughout Canada we actually see eleven (11) different subspecies of this bird, ranging in size from 1.1 kg to 8 kg (2.4 lbs. to 17.5 lbs.), with wingspans from 90 cm to 2 m (3 ft. to 6 ft.). The different subspecies have different body proportioning and colouring. Many people recognize the Canada Goose by its black head, white cheek patches and long black neck. In the Calgary area, our Canada goose residents have pearl-grey chest and belly colouring (other subspecies can have chestnut to black-brown undersides). The males and females of a subspecies look much the same. Canada Geese are very adaptable and can live in wild and urban environments. They return to their nesting sites year after year.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at **403-239-2488**, for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at **www.calgarywildlife.org** for more information.

FUN FACTS

- > Both parents participate in raising the young; the family stays together a year
- > They nest away from water and walk the goslings to water strengthening their muscle tone.
- > They usually mate for life but if their mate is killed they will seek a new mate.
- > Despite strong family bonds, Canada Geese will adopt orphaned goslings.



Contact Us

📍 11555 85 St NW, Calgary, AB T3R 1J3
📞 (403) 214-1312

✉ admin@calgarywildlife.org
🌐 calgarywildlife.org

🐦 @calgarywildlife
📘 @calgarywildlife
📷 @calgary_wildlife