

# Geese roundup aims to protect York reservoir



Officials are relocating geese from York's Chases Pond reservoir to prevent contamination of the drinking water

All Photographs by Deb Cram

By **Joanne Terrasi**  
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YORK, Maine -- Federal and York Water District officials took measures on Wednesday, June 14, to protect the drinking reservoir at Chases Pond from potential threats of future fecal contamination caused by migrating geese.

According to Don Neumann, the director of operations for the York Water District, it was a proactive move to call on the services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Service out of Augusta to round up a group of nine geese for relocation.

Water Resource Protection Manager Gary Stevens said on Wednesday, about a month ago 30 transient geese flew into the pond threatening the water quality with the droppings which they leave behind. The roundup was a measure to research alternatives as the number of migrating geese increases.

"Some geese will come back but a lot of them will stay where we put them," said Kirk Shively, Wildlife Disease Biologist for the department.



Jesse Morris, center, of the USDA Wildlife Service, joins others to create a temporary fence at Chases Pond in York, Maine, in an effort to corral and relocate nine geese which pose a possible contamination threat.



Jesse Morris, left, of the USDA Wildlife Service, speaks with Gary Stevens of the York Water District about a plan to capture geese which have been living at Chases Pond.