

Division of Wildlife

Lasers



Lasers have the advantage of being less noisy than noise deterrents and are more aesthetically pleasing than visual or physical deterrents. Using lasers can have similar effectiveness as chasing geese. If done correctly and at the right time, geese are scared by the laser beam and quickly leave an area when harassed with a laser. The average harassment time needed before the geese leave the area generally decreases with more frequent use of the laser. Using strong lasers offers the benefit of being able to use it from long distances away from the geese. The laser is not effective on areas where people feed the geese. The lasers will cause the geese to leave temporarily, but they will return if food is available.

When harassing the geese with a laser, start by directing it at a point several yards away from the geese, and slowly move the beam towards the geese. The geese see the beam moving toward them and usually take flight before the beam reaches them. If the beam needs to be directed towards the geese, aim it at their chests or sides and not at their eyes. This will avoid possible disorientation of the geese and any possible eye damage. Be aware of any people or houses that are behind the harassment areas so that they are not subjected to the beam reflecting off the water. Also be cautious to not point the laser into the sky as it may affect aircraft in the area.

GREEN OR RED LASERS

Lasers come in both red and green beams. While red beam lasers are easier to find, they tend to only be effective when harassing geese at night. Green beam lasers usually can't be purchased locally but offer the added benefit of being effective during daylight hours. However, both are limited depending on the amount of sunlight present. In either case, the stronger the beam the better.

WHEN TO USE

Lasers are not effective against geese that are actively nesting, on goslings that cannot fly, or on adult geese that are molting and cannot fly. Laser harassment is most effective around sunrise and sunset.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X

SUPPLIERS

- Bird-B-Gone www.birdbgone.com or call (800) 392-6915
- Birdbusters www.birdbusters.com or call (886) 915-8225
- Bird-X, Inc. www.bird-x.com or call (800) 662-5021
- Margo Supplies, Ltd. www.margosupplies.com or call (888) 652-1199
- Reed-Joseph International Co. www.reedjoseph.com or call (800) 647-5554
- Wildlife Control Technology, Inc. www.wildlife-control.com or call (800) 235-0262

COST AND EVALUATION

Some people have had success with the \$40 or less lasers that are sold at hardware stores, however these typically do not project a strong laser beam. Some stronger lasers can be purchased for around \$125. For very large areas lasers that project a very strong beam can be purchased but typically will cost anywhere from \$600-\$1200.

