to get the staff, t-bars and snow fence set up and angled like a runway or funnel that leads the geese into the back of a livestock transport truck. Once this is accomplished the staff walks the ground and herds any groups on land towards the runway. A human wedge is formed to push the geese in the right direction.

While this is being done the boats are herding the geese from the lake inland. This takes time as the birds are not to be stressed or overworked. Once on shore the same process of slowly walking behind them and clapping hands seems to work best in keeping them together and on the right path. Once the park is done it is off to the next location, minus the few that suddenly remembered they could fly. Obviously the moulting process has not started for them.

It should also be noted that the young are not taken, with sufficient mature geese left behind to tend to them as another endearing characteristic is any adult goose in the clan will tend to young goslings.

At the end of the two days close to 2,000 birds have been transported to a sanctuary in Aylmer. Representatives from both municipalities make the trip to ensure the release at that end goes as smoothly as the capture.

It is a lot of work. The outcome is well worth it. Think about it, 2000 geese times 2 lbs of droppings shipped away for a least six to eight weeks. Drastically reduces the complaint calls pertaining to this issue. •

Photo credit: Tom Mulvale and Brad Harden, Town of Oakville



Three boats corral and direct the geese to come on shore.



Head count taken as the geese go up the runway and board the transport.



 We have some pretty happy customers of our Natural Knit CPR creeping perennial ryegrass (and by the way, no unhappy ones either) The NTEP Trials on Summer Density and Wear Tolerance simply confirmed what we saw for ourselves, and heard.

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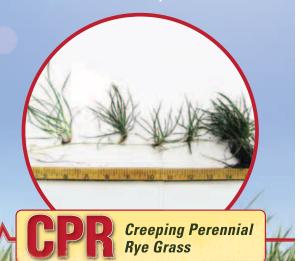
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