Leisure Services Parks Services 2008 Geese Management Program Update



#### Geese Issues...

 Geese population is increasing by 10-15 % per year on average

• Geese recognize playfields & waterfronts as protected areas with few potential predators

 Geese droppings contain bacteria which pose a potential health risk to facility users





## **Geese Management Options**

• Department has contacted several cities (Mississauga, Pickering, Thunder Bay) in order to discuss geese management options

- Options Include:
  - Egg Oiling
  - Spraying Programs
  - Increase Maintenance
  - Habitat Modification
  - Public Education program

- Relocating Birds
- Relocating Nests
- Dog Control
- Pyrotechnics



Background

# • In 2006 – Council approved \$ 45,000 for the purchase of a sweeper/vacuum to sweep up litter and geese droppings





- 2008 Council approved a one time allocation of \$ 75,000 in order to implement a geese management program and increase maintenance
- May 2008 Department issues an R.F.P.
- DSI Contractor was awarded the position
- July 2008 Program starts
- Fall of 2008 Department to report back to Council on pilot project



### Sites Selected for Pilot Project Include:

Bell Park
James Jerome Sports Complex
Moonlight Beach
Robinson Playfields



### Geese Management Initiatives Implemented in 2008 Include:

