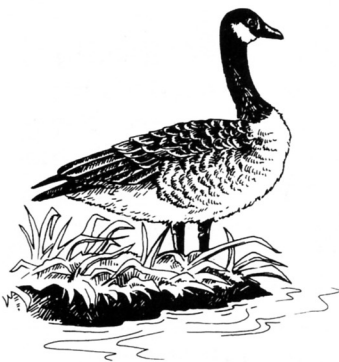


## SECTION C - WETLANDS and ADJACENT UPLANDS

Examples of wetland situations where box placement may attract a desired species:

1. Around a marsh or swamp.
2. Near a farmpond.
3. On a stream or river floodplain.
4. Lakeshore margins and islands.
5. Near a dam, e.g., reservoirs.
6. Around or in a wet meadow.
7. Beaver dams.
8. In Section A or B situations adjacent to wet sites.



### Canada Goose

Plan 19 (page 53)

The Canada Goose is so adaptable that in many locations little needs to be done to help ensure its nesting success. There may be local situations, however, where a landowner wishes to enjoy the presence of nesting geese on a particular wetland, or where fluctuating water levels in impoundments may jeopardize nests on natural sites. Depending on the circumstances, a floating or rigid nest platform can be a useful alternative.

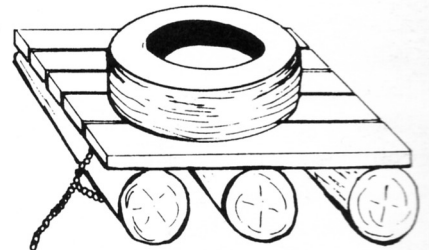
A large truck tire can be used in a number of ways to provide a suitable nesting site for Canada Geese. The best method is to place the tire over water on a rigid structure, which will significantly reduce predation losses. The tire nest must be high enough to escape floodwaters. In most ponds, three feet above the water level is sufficient. The bottom of the tire must

be covered with a sturdy base if metal or wood frame without a platform top is used. The base can be made from treated 3/8" exterior plywood, vinyl or sheet metal roofing, the end of a 55-gallon drum or heavy rubber conveyor belting, and should be 24" x 24" in size. These materials can be fastened to the tire with stove bolts. At least two holes approximately 4 inches in diameter should be cut out of the bottom of the tire and through the platform, if a solid top is placed on the support framework. This allows water to drain from the tire and makes it easier for the newly hatched goslings to leave the nest.

The best type of nesting material is a mixed hay, such as clover/timothy or orchard grass. Place an ample amount in the tire no later than the end of February.

The floating platform requires three lengths of 8" diameter utility poles 4 feet long. Lay the posts parallel to each other in order to make a 4' x 4' platform on top of the posts. Nail 4-foot lengths of 2" x 6" pine boards perpendicular to the direction of the posts. Space the boards about 1 inch apart. Next, wire an old tire to the platform and fill it half full of sawdust, after covering the slats in the platform beneath it. It may be

desirable to fit sheets of styrofoam under the platform to help it from floating too low or sinking after it becomes waterlogged.



This platform can be skidded out into the ice with a snowmobile or towed out with a boat, depending on the time of year. Platforms should be in place by the end of February. The best locations are in relatively sheltered areas or bays of marshes. The platforms should be at least 200 yards apart, if they are in view of each other, to minimize territorial conflicts between nesting pairs. Nest platforms can be closer together if there are trees, peninsulas or other visual barriers between the platform sites. In relatively open water areas, it is best to have the platforms within 20 to 30 feet of shore.

The platforms should be placed in 2 to 4 feet of water. A length of welded link chain should be bolted around the utility poles on opposing corners of the platform. Each chain should be 3 feet longer than the depth of the water from the high water mark to the bottom. Each chain should be bolted to an 8" x 8" x 16" concrete foundation block. The double anchor blocks are dropped about 6 feet apart to prevent the platform from constantly pivoting with the wind.

Most goose nesting will occur from March through mid-May.