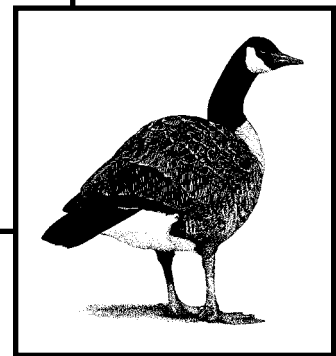
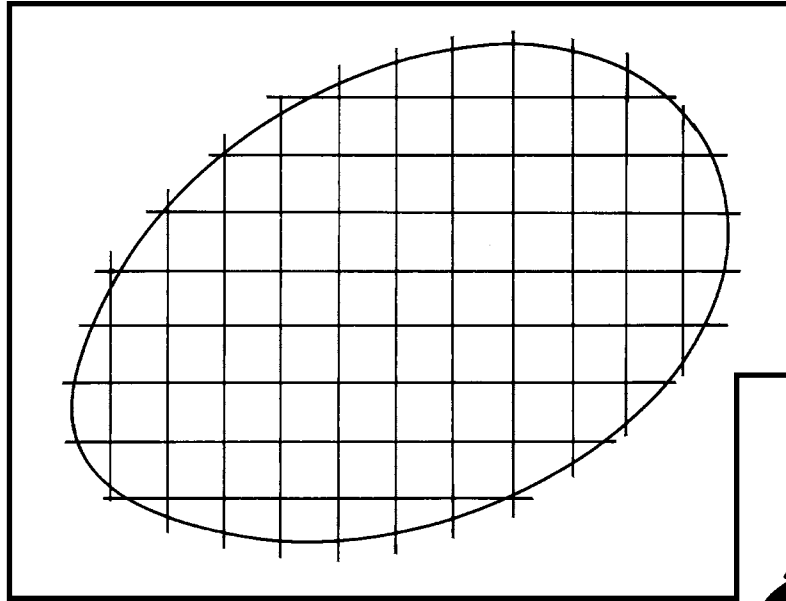


## Division of Wildlife

# PHYSICAL BARRIERS



## POND GRIDS

Bodies of water are the focal point of residential waterfowl activity. Denying the birds easy access to these areas is an effective control measure. Overhead grid systems composed of sturdy posts and Kevlar wire (e.g., Philly strand) have been used successfully to deny geese access to small ponds. For initial installation, posts which support the line should be spaced 20' apart. If this spacing proves ineffective, additional posts can be placed between the original posts, thus creating a 10' grid.

A grid system might be installed several feet above the water surface to permit human utilization of the pond; however, grids are most effective if installed approximately 1' above the surface. Effectiveness is also enhanced by installing bright reflective objects on the line at scattered locations. As it will be necessary to keep the lines taut, posts must be well anchored, and each line should be equipped with a device (e.g., turnbuckles) to take up the slack.

## PERIMETER FENCING

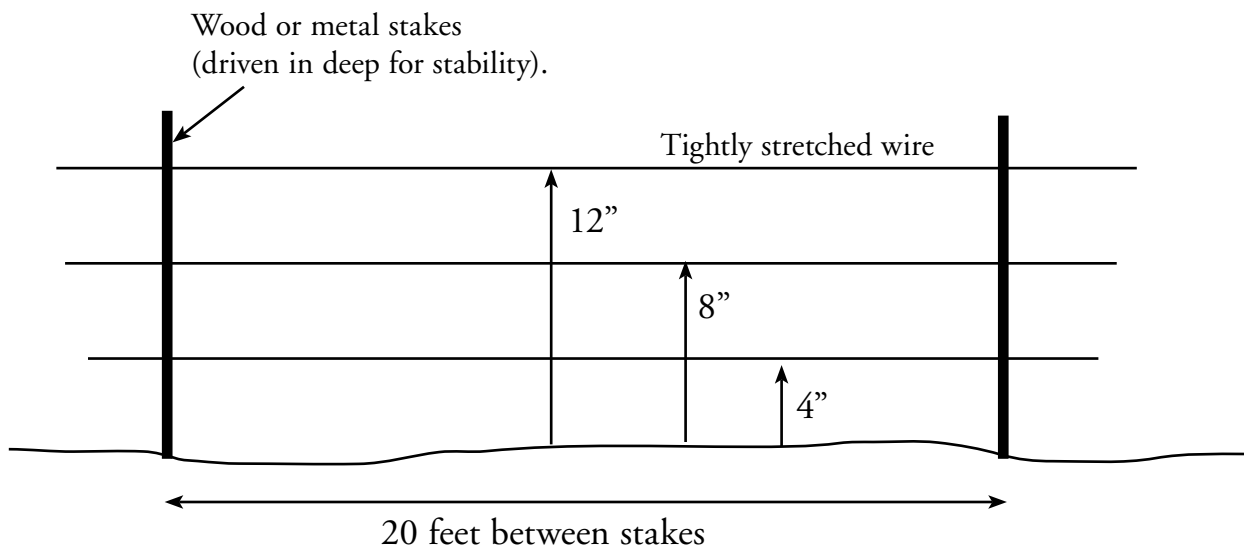
Waterfowl may learn to alight on adjacent land areas and walk in underneath the grid system to gain access to the water. Consequently, perimeter fencing may be required. This fencing may be constructed for permanent or temporary use. Plastic material is most suitable for temporary fencing. It is relatively cheap and can be easily installed by utilizing existing fence posts and twist ties. Other alternatives include 3' high chicken wire or a split-rail fence with chicken wire or plastic netting on the bottom 18". A no-cost alternative would be to allow a 10'-20' border around the perimeter of the pond to develop tall, thick vegetation (e.g., prairie grass or shrubs) which might function as a barrier to "walk-in" geese.



# Physical Barriers

## OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Physical barriers should be installed prior to March 1, before goose territories are established, and the barriers should be left intact at least until July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is best if the barrier is left up all year.
- Erect a multi-strand fence completely around the perimeter of the pond. The fence consists of 2 or 3 strands of thin wire strung 4", 8", and 12" off the ground.
- When properly installed and maintained, this fence will prevent the geese from walking from the pond into your yard and makes the property less attractive to nesting geese.
- Three-foot long sections of rebar make good stakes and can easily be concealed with ornamental plants, if desired.
- Do not leave any openings in the barrier or the geese will walk through the opening.
- Keep the strands tight. If the line is allowed to sag (as is common with fishing line), the geese will walk through or over it.



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