

Take the Pledge

“One and Done”

With the unsettling news of fewer breeding pairs of Canada geese and a very late spring thaw that caused a near complete nesting failure this year, the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](http://dnr.maryland.gov) is urging hunters and waterfowlers to consider *voluntarily reducing* your daily bag limit to one goose a day during the Atlantic Population Canada goose hunting season. Preserving as many breeding-aged geese will be key to the population’s recovery.

Did you know?

- Atlantic Population Canada goose management is tied to a flyway-wide management plan that includes states and provinces on the Atlantic seaboard from Florida to Labrador.
- Seven out of the last 10 years, Atlantic Population Canada goose reproduction has been below average and the 2018 count of breeding pairs was the lowest since 2000.
- Most Atlantic Population Canada geese nest on the Ungava Peninsula in northern Quebec. Maryland is the winter destination for many of these iconic birds.

What can you do?

- Take the “One and Done” pledge and consider *voluntarily* reducing your bag limit to one Canada goose a day during the migratory goose hunting season.
- Consider limiting the opportunities in your blind or pit to those who are new to the sport and could benefit from the attention of an experienced mentor.
- Consider hunting the overabundant snow goose. The department offers liberal bag limits and extended seasons for that species.
- Support habitat management practices, such as leaving standing row crops, planting cover crops and limiting disturbance to roost areas. These practices help ensure wintering geese will leave Maryland in the best possible physical condition, ready and able to begin nesting as soon as weather conditions permit.

Additional Resources

- http://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/hunt_trap/AP-CAGO-FAQ.aspx
- <http://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Documents/AP-CanadaGooseStatus.pdf>
- http://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/plants_wildlife/Canada_Goose.aspx

We appreciate your consideration of this voluntary request and remain hopeful that Mother Nature will deal a better hand to our migratory geese next spring. Good luck, and happy and safe hunting!