

THIS WEEK ON THE LLANO ESTACADO

FEBRUARY 1-5, 2010



After some teachers reported that when they went and saw the ducks at the Wadley Barron Park, they commented they also saw Canadian Geese. Here is their story...

In the 1980's a Midland County resident purchased some Canada Goose eggs and hatched them, and released the birds to his farm pond. He did not "pinion" the wings of the young birds, so they eventually left.

The birds found some quiet places to breed, and for the last 30 years up to 10 birds have always been present. During the winter they often spend a significant portion of each day

at the Wadley-Barron Park on A street, just north of Midland High School. During the late spring and summer, as they raise their young, they remain hidden away from most observers.

In Lubbock and Amarillo, hundreds of wild Canadian geese spend the winter in city parks. In other places in the United States, Canadian geese have become a "problem," where resident flocks grow into hundreds of birds, leaving droppings littering the ground in city parks and golf courses.

Teacher and student challenge;

What do the geese do when they are out of the water? They often are found walking around and doing things... but what are they doing and why? Email us at bwilliams@sibleynaturecenter.org and tell us what you observe!