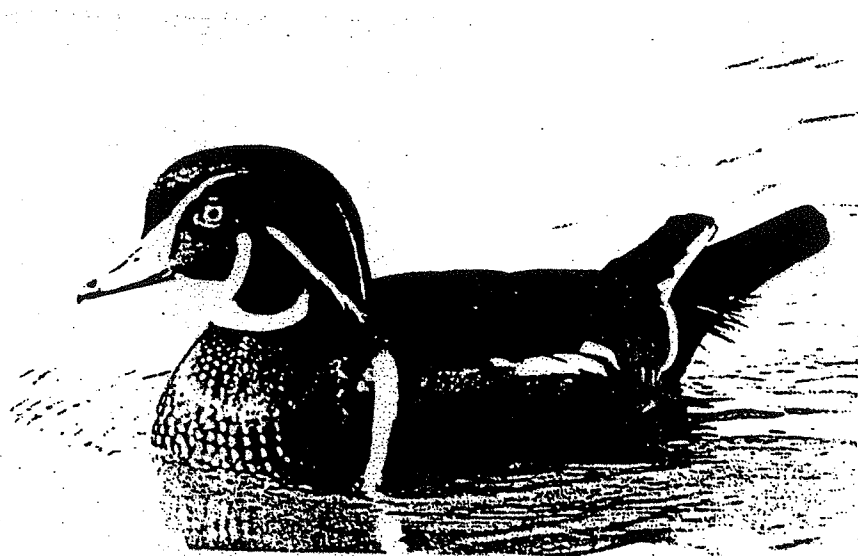


WOOD DUCK RESTORATION PROGRAM

2002 REPORT



DEERING CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wood Duck Nesting Program 2002 Report

The 2002 hatch year was not a good one. The severity of the winter solidly froze most surface waters but the deep snow cover made checking and cleaning the boxes for the 2003-breeding season a real challenge. However, a total of sixty DCC nesting boxes were checked as well as two Ducks Unlimited Boxes on Fulton Pond. A total of five boxes were lost due to a variety of factors and four boxes were constructed in 2002 and were installed for the 2003-breeding season. Thus, a total of sixty-four nesting boxes will be available for the 2003-breeding season.

The sixty boxes checked revealed that twenty-eight (32%) of the boxes had seen some use by ducks. The hatched to unhatched egg ratio of 42% to 58% is less than the normal average of 70% hatched to 30% unhatched. The reasons for the large unhatched number of eggs are variable and can include nest predators, unfavorable weather conditions, and density strife.

The DCC has maintained a fairly constant number of properly maintained and predator protected boxes since 1987. The widely spaced boxes across the numerous surface waters of the Town have not in the past seen problems with density strife and attraction of predators or nest competitors. Our management plan was designed to provide the best opportunity for natural regulation to remain intact while providing increased numbers of wood ducks. Due to the extremely dry conditions in the spring of 2002, it is likely that prime nesting sites were limited and egg dumping as a result of density strife occurred. Hopefully with the deep snow cover of the winter of 2002-2003, sufficient surface waters will be present once again in the spring of 2003 and a normal distribution pattern of female wood ducks will eliminate any density strife, which may have existed.

Between 1987 and 2002, the DCC has constructed and/or refurbished wood duck nesting boxes throughout the Town of Deering on an annual basis. The nesting boxes must be refurbished with fresh shavings each year to assure reuse. While refurbishing the nesting boxes in February and March, a record of each years usage has been maintained. The DCC would like to thank our supporters who have volunteered both their time to help refurbish the boxes each year and materials of which new replacement boxes are constructed.

For more information, call Gary Bono at 464-5107.

DUCK03.DCC

MAR.2003

**DEERING
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM EGG COUNT SUMMARY

HATCH YEAR	HATCHED/ UNHATCHED EGGS	TOTAL EGGS	% HATCHED/ UNHATCHED
94	70 / 23	93	67% / 33%
95	119 / 36	155	70% / 30%
96	135 / 68	203	70% / 30%
97	119 / 58	177	67% / 33%
98	144 / 29	173	83% / 17%
99	162 / 80	242	67% / 33%
00	142 / 119	261	54% / 46%
01	153 / 43	196	78% / 22%
02	84 / 114	198	42% / 58%

for 54 boxes checked to date, 10 to go

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

TOTAL EGG COUNT [94-95yr 70/23] [95-96yr 119/36] [96-97yr 135/68] [97-98yr 119/50]
 [98-99yr 144/29] [99-00yr 162/80] [00-01yr 142/119] [01-02yr 153/43] [02-03

WD=wood duck M=merganser #/ = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest yr/check box yr
 NU= not used OPEN= box number not assigned LOST= box missing UC=unchecked

ID #	1st yr	LOCATION	Usage* 94-95	Usage 95-96	Usage 96-97	Usage 97-98	Usage 98-99	Usage 99-00	Usage 00-01	Usage 01-02	Usage 02-03
1	95	HUNTER'S POND				NEW	M15/0	NU	M15/0	WD 2/2	WD 7/0
2	95	HUNTER'S POND				NEW	WD13/2	WD10/1	NU	NU	WD 5/0
3	95	JOHNSON'S POND				NEW	NU	WD 5/3	WD 0/20	WD 3/1	NU
4	95	JOHNSON'S POND				NEW	WD12/0	WD 7/2	WD 12/2	NU	WD 9/2
5	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	O	WD 1/15	0	WD0/17	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	WD 8/0
6	94/00	LEAD MINE	O	WD 3/0	0	?	WD1/0	LOST/NEW	NU	WD 6/0	NU
7	94	LEAD MINE	WD 4/2	WD 3/0	WD 4/0	?	WD3/0	WD11/0	NU	NU	NU
8	97	JOHNSON'S PD			NEW	NU	NU	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	NEW
9	94	LEAD MINE	WD 5/1	WD 5/0	LOST	?	NEW	NU	NU	WD 0/7	NU
10	(96)	LEAD MINE	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	WD 2/3	?	WD5/0	WD16/2	WD 8/2	WD 12/0	WD 0/11
11	-97	LEAD MINE			NEW	?	NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU
12	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	WD 4/0	WD 0/11	O	WD8/0	WD4/0	WD 0/4	WD 4/1	WD 14/1	WD 10/0
13	(96)/00	LEAD MINE N.	WD 0/1	GONE	WD 8/0	NU	NU	NU / NEW	NU	NU	WD 0/10
14	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	O	0	M 9/0	WD9/1	WD7/0	LOST/NEW	LOST	LOST	OPEN
15	95	WEARE BORDER PD	GONE	0	M 7/1	WD6/0	WD7/0	WD 5/3	M 12/0	WD 9/0	WD 5/1
16	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	WD 4/1	WD 11/3	O	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
17	95	LEAD MINE S.	NEW	0	WD 4/1	?	WD4/2	NU	NU	NU	M 0/4
18	95	NORTH CORNER	NEW	0	O	LOST	OPEN	WD5/0	NU	NU	NU
19	95	LEAD MINE S.	NEW	0	WD 2/0	?	NU	NU	WD 0/3	NU	WD 0/9
20	92	LAZY BROWN	WD 6/0	WD 3/0	0	?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
21	01	LEAD MINE	NEW	O	M 6/0	WD7/2	WD4/0	LOST	OPEN	NU	WD 0/5
22	95	PLEASANT PD RD	NEW	M 5/1	M 8/1	M10/0	M8/0	WD8/0	WD 7/4	LOST	Submerged
23	95	PLEASANT PD RD	NEW	M 5/0	LOST	WD6/0	NU	WD0/11	NU	NU	NU
24	93/00	PLEASANT PD RD	WD 4/1	WD 10/0	WD 7/0	NU	NU	NU / NEW	WD 0/1	WD 6/0	WD 6/0
25	93/00	PLEASANT PD RD	O	O	O	NU	NU	LOST/NEW	M 10/1	LOST	Submerged
26	94	JOHNSON'S PD	O	WD 1/2	M 9/1	WD9/0	WD0/8	WD 0/12	LOST	OPEN	NEW
27	90/00	JOHNSON'S PD	WD 0/16	WD 2/0	WD 6/0	LOST	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/9	WD 10/0	NU
28	94/00	JOHNSON'S PD	WD 4/1	WD 6/1	WD 0/10	LOST	OPEN	NEW	M 13/1	WD 13/1	M 0/4
29	95	POLING'S MARSH	GONE	WD 4/0	WD 13/1	WD1/7	NU	NU	WD 7/1	WD 6/0	WD 4/0
(YR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE			36/23	63/33	85/25	56/29	83/11	67/44	80/40	75/22	54/46

24 boxes checked
 14 boxes used

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

WD=wood duck M=merganser ## = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest year/check box year

NU= not unsed OPEN= number not assigned

ID #	1st Yr LOCATION	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage	Usage
30	90 HUNTER'S PD	O	O	WD 11/1	WD11/1	WD11/1	NU	NU	NU	WD 12/1	WD 8/0
31	90 HUNTER'S PD	M 5/0	M 10/1	WD 10/0	NU	WD0/13	NU	WD 9/0	WD 11/3	WD 0/13	
32	92 RESERVOIR MARSH	O	O	O	NU	LOST	LOST	WD 0/5	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	NU
33	94 POLING'S MARSH	WD 8/0	WD 12/0	WD 0/12	WD4/0	WD10/0	M15/0	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	NU
34	2 AIRPORT MARSH	O	WD 8/0	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	NEW	NU
35	2 AIRPORT MARSH	WD 4/0	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	NEW	NU
36	94 FULTON PD	WD 3/0	WD 4/0	WD 0/16	NU	NU	WD 6/1	NU	NU	WD 0/8	
37	(96) DUDLEY BR. MARSH	O	O	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
38	97 HUNTER'S POND	O	GONE	NEW	WD0/18	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/21	NU	LOST	
39	94 PATTERN BROOK	O	O	WD 4/0	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/1	NU	WD 0/8	
40/18a	94 GLEN RD PD	O	O	NEW	WD6/0	NU	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	
41	94 PALMER'S MARSH	O	O	O	NU	NU	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
42	94 PALMER'S MARSH	O	O	O	NU	NU	NU	M 3/0	NU	UC	
43	94 PATTERN MARSH	O	M 5/0	WD 0/12	WD11/0	NU	NU	WD 0/17	WD12/0	NEW	
44	94 PATTERN MARSH	WD 6/0	WD 5/1	WD 0/1	NU	NEW	WD5/0	NU	LOST	NEW	
45	94 CLIFTON'S CAMP	O	O	WD 4/2	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/8	WD 4/0	WD 0/7	
46	94 PLEASANT PD ROAD	O	O	O	NEW	NU	WD5/0	NU	NU	NU	
47	97 LILY PD			NEW	NU	WD5/0	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	OPEN	OPEN	
48	97 DUDLEY BROOK S.			NEW	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
49	97 LILY PD			NEW	NU	WD5/1	WD0/11	NU	M 16/1	WD 0/13	
50	95 HUNTER'S PD	NEW	WD 12/1	WD 11/2	M18/0	NU	WD 5/0	WD 9/5	NU	M 2/0	
51	94 DRISCOLL CART RD	NEW	O	O	O	WD5/0		WD 10/1	WD 0/6	WD 1/1	
52	91 AUDUBON EAST	O	?	WD 5/0	NU	NU	M0/13	WD 6/0	WD4/0*	WD 4/0	
53	91 AUDUBON EAST	WD 8/0	?	O	NU	WD6/0	M11/1	WD 0/1	WD4/0*	WD 0/9	
54	95 LEAD MINE S.	NEW	O	NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	OPEN	OPEN	
55	91 AUDUBON	?	?	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
56	91 KARL'S MARSH	?	?	O	O/6	NU	WD11/0	WD 5/2	NU	NU	
57	91 BLACK FOX PD.	?	?	O	NU	NU	NU	WD12/0	M 0/10	NU	
58	91 BLACK FOX PD.	?	?	O	NU	NU	NU	LOST	LOST	OPEN	
(VR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE		34/0	56/3	45/45	50/25	37/15	63/26	62/67	67/21	15/67	

Box broke off pipe
Box broke off pipe

Rodent nest
Merganser feathers
No eggs

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

WD=wood duck M=merganser #/ = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest year/check box year

NU = not used OPEN=number not assigned

ID #	1st Yr	LOCATION	Usage 94-95	Usage 95-96	Usage 96-97	Usage 97-98	Usage 98-99	Usage 99-00	Usage 00-01	Usage 01-02	Usage 02-03		
59	91	BLACK FOX PD.	?		0		NU	NU	NU	LOST	OPEN		
60	98	WEARE BORDER PD	?	0		NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	WD 6/0		
61	98	WEARE BORDER PD	?	0		NEW	WD10/2	M 16/1	NU	WD 11/0	WD 5/1		
62	98	?	?	0		NEW				OPEN	OPEN		
63	98	?	?	0		OPEN		OPEN		OPEN	OPEN		
64	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	WD 5/0	NU	WD4/0	WD10/0	NU	NU	NU		
65	96	SONNEY'S MARSH		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
66	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	0/2	WD2/0	NU	OPEN	NU	NU		Rodent nest
67	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
68	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	WD 0/8	NU	NU	M0/9	NU	NU	M 4/0		
69	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
70	96	DOPHY'S MEADOW		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	LOST	LOST		
71	96	DOPHY'S MEADOW		NEW		NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		Needs brush cleared
72	97	HUNTER'S POND			NEW	M13/2	NU	WD 6/0	WD 0/12	LOST	OPEN		
73	97	DUDLEY BR MARSH S.			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
74	97	2ND NH TURNPIKE			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		Full of moss
75	97	GERINI MARSH			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
76	97	LONGWOOD OXBOW			NEW	NU	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN		
77	97	GREEN BRIDGE			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
78	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
79	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY			NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
80	99	TUBBS RD PD			NU	NU	NEW		LOST	OPEN	OPEN		
81	97	TUBBS RD PD			NEW	NU	WD8/1		LOST	OPEN	OPEN		
65A	97	TUBBS RD PD			NEW				NU		UC		
51A	OLD	DUDLEY BR MARSH S							NU		NU		
DU-1		FULTON POND									NU		Ducks Unlimited
DU-2		FULTON POND									NU		Ducks Unlimited
(YR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE					5/8	13/4	24/3	32/10	0/12	11/0	15/1		