

May 27, 2013

**Re: Non-Lethal Beaver Management**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The City of London, Ontario's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee is writing to you to relay some important information that our Committee has found during its research regarding non-lethal methods of mitigating ways that beaver activity sometimes affects urban lands and infrastructure. As the Drainage Superintendent of your community the issues that arise when dealing with beaver are probably quite familiar to you and as the Drainage Superintendent you are also one of the people who can have the largest impact on the treatment of this important species.

Some people see the beaver as a pest or annoyance, but beaver are a keystone species and support one of the most productive ecosystems - wetlands. Beaver clear channels and keep waterways open. They improve water quality of lakes and streams. They also decrease erosion and filter sediments, toxins and excess nutrients from the water. Non-lethal means should be employed at all times when dealing with this extremely important species.

**Non-lethal Management Devices:**

- To Protect Trees: wire mesh wraps
- To Prevent Flooding: flow devices such as the Flexible Leveler or the Castor Master
- To Prevent Blocked Storm Sewers: Beaver Deceiver
- Keeping a Culvert Open: building a Diversion Dam upstream of a Culvert Protective Fence

Two helpful resources for typical beaver issues are:

<http://www.martinezbeavers.org/wordpress/solutions/>

<http://beaversolutions.com/>

There are also videos available for order through [beaversolutions.com](http://beaversolutions.com) regarding general beaver management practices and installation of the various devices.

It is the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee's hope that you will research these non-lethal management strategies more fully and implement them through your department in your community. If your department is already employing some or all of these non-lethal measures in your community, our Committee would like to thank you for your efforts for these animals.

Thank you for your time. Please do not hesitate to respond to this message if you would like to request more information or if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee,  
City of London, Ontario