



*Photo by Record-Journal's David Zajac for a Story by Jessica Sims about Geese Herding at Mixville Park in Cheshire!*

#### ***Keeping Geese away at Mixville Park in Cheshire***

CHESHIRE — For just over 10 years, Alan Kendrix has been controlling geese at Mixville Park using his two dogs and boat.

“I guess they’re happy with what I do or I wouldn’t have had that long a ride,” said Kendrix, a licensed nuisance wildlife control operator.

Kendrix’s two border collies are trained to help him with his work. Bear, an all-around geese herder and therapy dog at Masonicare, is let out of the truck first to move the geese to the water as the other dog, Sugar, helps out.

Kendrix then uses his flat-bottomed boat, with a lithium ion battery and three-horsepower trolling motor, to move the geese away.

“...the flat-bottomed boat, the motor and the two dogs is all I need to keep the geese away,” he said.

George Noewatne, director of public works and engineering, said Kendrix comes to the park at different times to monitor the geese. He usually starts in March and finishes in October.

“(Kendrix) shows up at different times because he doesn’t want the geese to get into a routine where they know that he is going to be there from 7 to 8 a.m. and then they come back at 9 a.m.” Noewatne said.

Kendrix steps up his efforts to keep them off the property before they lay their eggs.

“That’s a full-court press every work day to keep the geese away while they begin to lay their eggs,” Kendrix said. “I have to make sure they are not comfortable on the properties that I work with.”

Along with Mixville Pond, Kendrix, through his business, No Geese Today, helps with the geese problem at Lyman Orchards in Middlefield and the Yale University Golf Course.

(Kendrix) “is a very well spoken individual who knows his business well,” Noewatne said. “He certainly knows all about geese and how they react to different things... He’s been very good for us and we don’t get complaints.”

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