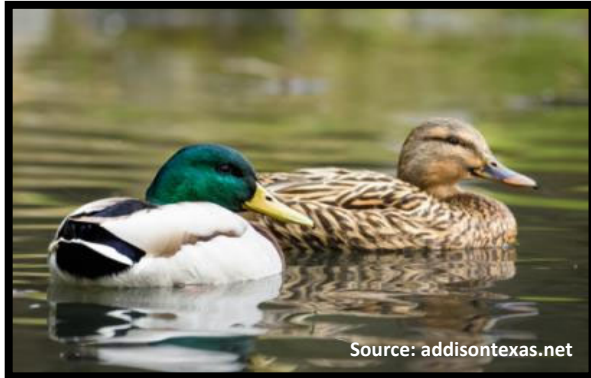


Don't Feed Waterfowl (Water Birds)

What are Waterfowl?

Waterfowl are birds that can be found in, on, or around community amenity lakes. They can include ducks, geese, egrets, seagulls, swans, and other bird species.



Why is it Bad to Feed them?

Feeding waterfowl adversely impacts their health and harms the quality of the water in our bayous and lakes.

Common feed such as bread and popcorn are not nutritious enough for waterfowl and can cause long-term health problems for them. Feeding waterfowl can cause them to gather in large numbers in one area, which can lead to an over-concentration of their excrement and fecal matter.

This over-concentration can release too many nutrients into the water which leads to algae blooms. These turn the water green, murky, and smelly. Recreational activities such as hiking and biking near the waterway are adversely affected.

Too much waste from waterfowl can also spread diseases within the flock and in the water, since their waste can contain bacteria such as *E. coli*. Increased amount of bacteria in the water can also be harmful to other aquatic wildlife.

Uneaten feed can also affect surface water quality and attract disease-carrying wildlife.



Source: nbtexas.org

How You Can Help

- Do not feed waterfowl.
- Watch and enjoy the view of waterfowl from a distance.
- Educate others in the community about why you shouldn't feed them.
- Be aware of waterfowl while fishing and dispose of fishing line properly.
- Contact the District by calling our customer hotline at 281-290-6500 with any questions or for more information.



For more information on the Fort Bend County MUD 50 Stormwater Management Program please visit: <https://fortbendmud50.com/stormwater-issues-and-actions/>
To report stormwater quality concerns, please visit <https://fortbendmud50.com/contact-us/>