

Canada Geese

What are Canada Geese doing in Four Hills? Enjoying the Good Life, apparently. The past two years we have had Canada Geese visiting the irrigation pond on the 14th Fairway of the Golf Course.

The Four Hills geese are below average with only two goslings:



During the second year of their lives, Canada geese find a mate. They are monogamous, and most couples stay together all of their lives. If one dies, the other may find a new mate. The female lays from two to nine eggs with an average of five, and both parents protect the nest while the eggs incubate, but the female spends more time at the nest than the male.

Their nest is usually located in an elevated area near water such as streams, lakes, ponds, and sometimes on a beaver lodge. The eggs are laid in a shallow depression lined with plant material and down.

The incubation period, in which the female incubates while the male remains nearby, lasts for 24–32 days after laying. Canada Geese can respond to external climatic factors by adjusting their laying date to spring maximum temperatures, which may benefit their nesting success.

We all seem to be hunkered down these days, practicing social-distancing throughout the day. Yet Life continues on within Four Hills Village - we can enjoy snippets of it every day, as this health crisis brings out the best in us — and Spring brings hope.