

A photograph showing a person's hand holding a piece of bread, which a mallard duck is reaching up to take from its beak. Several other ducks are visible in the greenish water of a pond. The scene illustrates the act of feeding waterfowl.

Negative Impacts of Feeding Waterfowl

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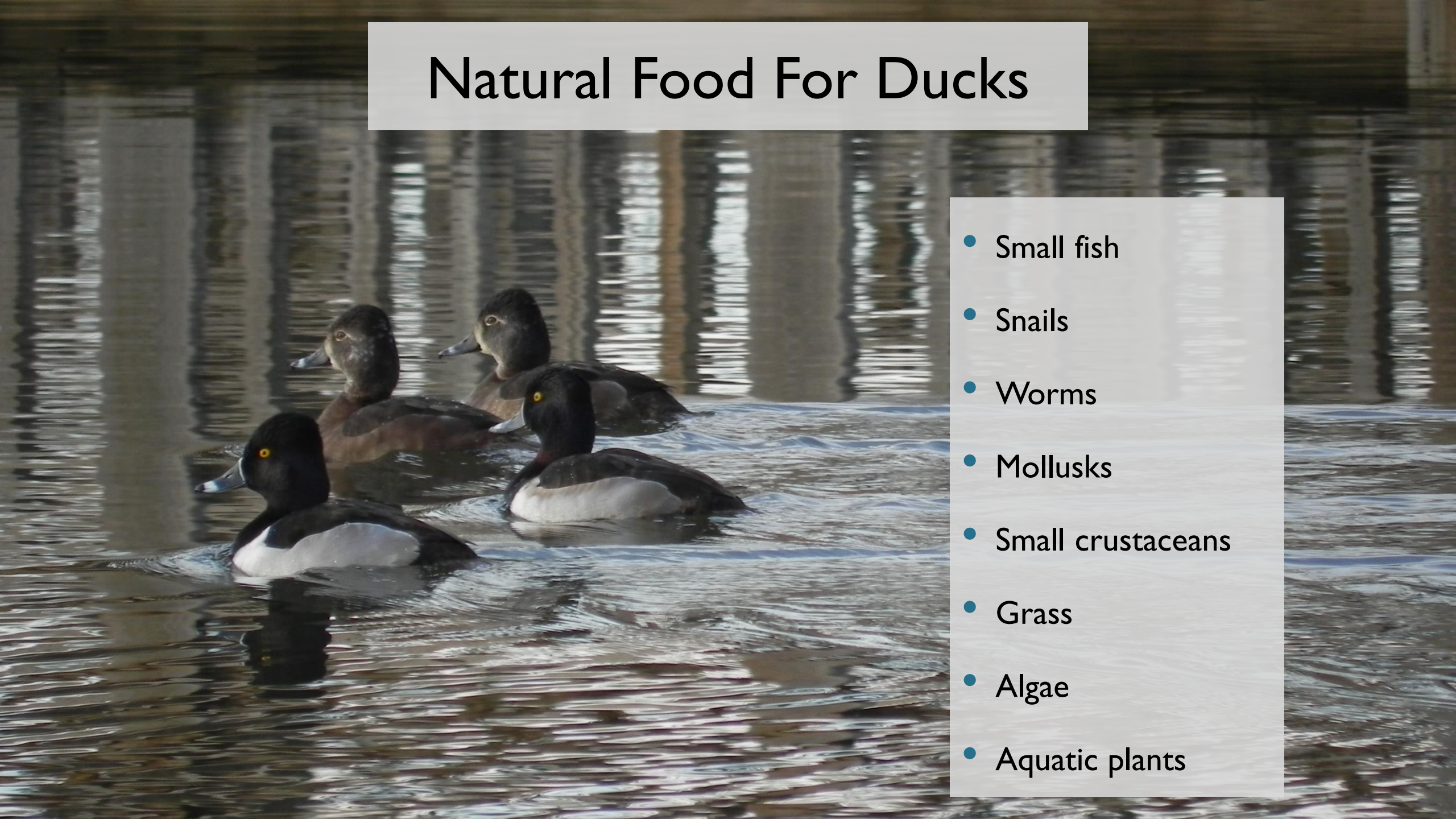
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Ducks and geese
should NOT eat...



Natural Food For Ducks

- Small fish
- Snails
- Worms
- Mollusks
- Small crustaceans
- Grass
- Algae
- Aquatic plants



Human food is not
healthy for wildlife



Increased Disease Spread



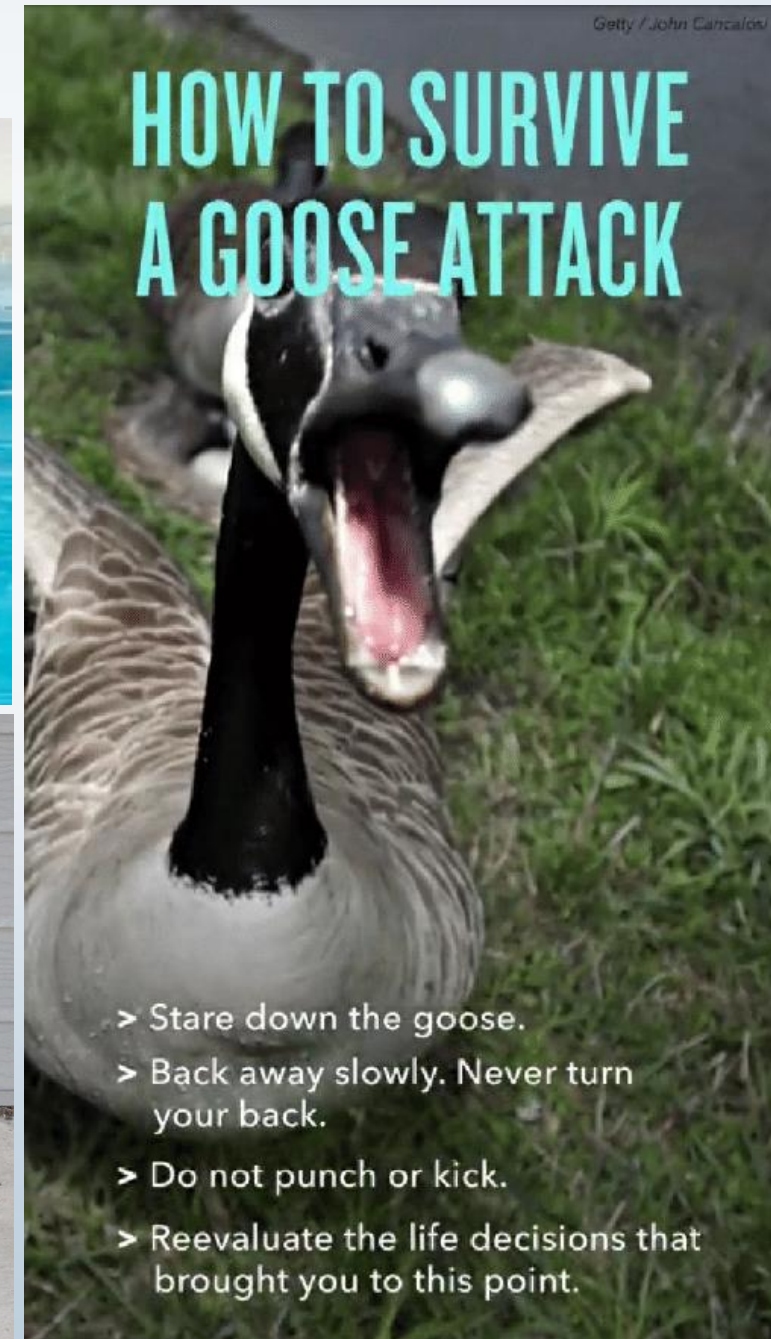
Habituation



Photo Credit: Birdies100



Photo Credit: pbyrne



Invasive Species



Non-target Species



Habitat Degradation



Water Quality



Management Options

- Outreach and education
- Feeding ordinances



But what about “healthy” foods?



Management Options for Non-native Waterfowl

- No state regulations for non-native waterfowl
- Oiling or addling eggs
- Trap and remove



Alternatives

- Birdwatching
- Contribute to citizen science projects
 - iNaturalist, eBird
- Photography
- Learn about wildlife
- Improve your local park



Promote Healthy Habitats



A photograph of a hand feeding a duck in a pond. The hand is holding a piece of bread, which the duck is reaching for with its beak. Several other ducks are visible in the water, some looking towards the hand. The water is green and murky. The scene is set outdoors, likely in a park or wildlife area.

Questions?

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