

Unwelcomed Visitors

Beavers can be a real nuisance to property owners. This animal is sometimes the source of recurrent problems of flooding of private property, damaged trees, ruined bridges or culverts and flooding of roads.



According to Mr. Riou, Department of Wildlife Protection (DWP),

“...the regulation on wildlife conservation and improvement gives authorisation to kill or capture an animal that causes damage. But it remains silent on the means to take. At the Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife, which integrated DWP, a range of interventions is encouraged, before choosing a final solution... The favoured approach is to adjust the human habitat with the beavers’ habitat and to choose the appropriate solutions that will prevent the beavers from causing damage.”¹

Here are a few suggestions:

- Protect your trees with a metallic mesh.
- Install a dam upstream of the bridges or culverts so the beavers will be induced to construct their habitat at that point instead of under the structures.
- Install a pipe system in a metallic box, upstream to the beaver dam in order to reinstate the through-flow and create a breach in the dam.
- Dismantle the dam; in such a case, a permit is required.
- Capture the beavers by trapping in season. If not in season, a special authorisation is required.

*For more information, consult the web site:
www3.mrnf.gouv.qc.ca/faune/importuns/index.asp*

¹ Villeneuve, Nathalie. *Déloger les castors dans la règle de l’art*, September 17, 2010, Protection Services, Ministry of Natural Resources, Laval Region, Quebec.