

**Account:** South Carolina State Parks

**Content type:** Facebook Page - Timeline posts

**Record ID:** 20120907South-Carolina-State-ParksTimeline-posts52748\_10151144876593166



**South Carolina State Parks**

at 1:00:36 on 9/07/2012 UTC · 🌐

Did you know you that if you want a park program just for your family and friends at Lee State Park all you have to do is ask?

A family from Columbia did just that this weekend. They came to the Friday night S'mores at Sunset program and asked about our "By Request" Ranger programs.

By Saturday morning, the whole family came out to the Education Center to learn about pond life. With the help of the Interpretive Park Ranger, they caught all sorts of animals like crayfish and snails. They also got some dragonfly nymphs.

For more information about the "By Request" Ranger Programs, call Lee' Education Center at (803) 428-4988. Or, you can check out some of our regularly scheduled programs online:

<http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/lee/lee-programs.aspx>



**Bryan Sloat** so here's a question I've still not got a park or DNR to answer adequately, let's see how you do. How do we tell the male from the female Canadian Geese?

at 1:14:57 on 9/07/2012 UTC



**Dawn Watson Weaver** Male of the species are ganders. Females are geese. Like any fowl a careful scientific examination of the vent area is necessary for 100% gender identification. More casual observations are that ganders are taller, often larger, tend toward being more aggressive than females and have a lower pitched honk than a goose.

at 3:31:06 on 9/07/2012 UTC



**South Carolina State Parks** Bryan, the park interpreter from Lee emailed a response to your question. Here's her answer: Dawn is right. A goose's behavior especially with goslings or a nest nearby will help you figure out if the goose is male or female.

To get a definitive sex of monomorphic species like Canada geese, you have to catch them and look inside their vent. Yes, it is as difficult as it sounds. Bird banders will record the sex of the bird in the banding records. That means workers helping the bander have to figure out the sex which involves gently putting the goose on its back, straddling it, and moving feathers out of the way. Once the vent is found, you have to gently pull the skin down and away to reveal the organs. There is a muscle surrounding the vent, making it difficult to sex a goose once the goose becomes wise to what you are doing.

at 13:15:29 on 9/07/2012 UTC



**Cynthia Long** lee state park is very cool park to visit\_nice and quiet : )

at 15:50:25 on 9/07/2012 UTC



**Dawn Watson Weaver** As a farm woman, and not a park employee, I have had occasion to experience this. It comes complete with the fiercest pinches and wing flapping experience that a person is ever likely to experience.

at 20:52:44 on 9/07/2012 UTC