

City of W.P.  
Lake Wilbar

## Officials say poison killed 22 birds in lake

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WINTER PARK — Orange County environmental officials Monday found about 20 Muscovy ducks and two crows in Lake Wilbar that apparently died of poisoning.

A resident called the county environmental protection department about 5:40 p.m., said coordinator Jim Adams. The birds showed signs of strychnine poisoning, he said. Two or three ducks died while officials were at the lake collecting the bodies for burial.

"We checked the fish and the turtles in the lake and ruled out any water problem," Adams said.

"We noticed pieces of bread floating by the animals in the water," he said, but the bread probably will not be tested.

Besides intentional poisoning, the birds could have been poisoned by going into a garden that had been sprayed with pesticides, he said.

"Unfortunately, these animals are not protected by any law and they eat almost anything," Adams said.