

OUR PETS & STORMWATER POLLUTION

Help Prevent Pet-Waste Pollution

Taking care of pets is no easy job, making sure they are happy and healthy should be a priority. One of these responsibilities include disposing of pet waste properly. Pet waste that is left on streets, pavement, lawns or driveways can have a significant impact on the health of our watershed. When not properly disposed of, pet waste can be picked up by stormwater runoff and discharged into the watershed through storm drains. This pollutes our rivers, streams, lakes and oceans with harmful pathogens, which can cause serious diseases in humans.

Pet Waste DOO

- ❖ Set a schedule to clean up waste in your yard (i.e. once a day, every other day).
- ❖ Clean up waste in your yard just before a big rainstorm.
- ❖ Use a bag to clean up waste in public spaces and tie up the bag before disposal.
- ❖ Dispose of the waste in a trashcan or pet waste receptacle.
- ❖ Remove the waste from the bag and flush it down the toilet.
- ❖ Carry around a few extra bags with you in case you see someone else who needs one.
- ❖ Spread the word to your pet-owning friends!

Pet Waste DON'T

- ❖ Do not leave it out on your lawn.
- ❖ Do not leave it out on the sidewalk or in any public parks.
- ❖ Do not leave bagged waste on the street or trails.
- ❖ Do not flush the waste in a bag.
- ❖ Do not put the waste into the storm drain, whether it is in a bag or not.



Did You Know?

- ❖ Dog waste is not fertilizer.
- ❖ In a couple of days, 100 dogs can produce enough waste to temporarily close all watershed areas within a 20-mile radius to fishing and swimming!
- ❖ Dog waste contains nearly twice the coliform bacteria found in human waste.
- ❖ Pet waste is the 3rd largest contributor of bacterial pollution in urban wetlands!



Keep your community clean and safe by picking up your pet waste. Do your part to prevent the spread of diseases and keep our waters clean!

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