

Contact Information

CAMPBELL COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Owners' Rationale for Not Picking Up After Their Dog	
Picking it up:	
Eventually goes away	Pet waste has been shown to be a major contributor to bacteria in certain surface waters
	Hygiene/health reasons
	Keep the yard clean and green
	Bacteria knows no bounds - it can be a problem anywhere, especially if it is near a water source
	Be better prepared - it's as easy as taking along a plastic bag and dispose of properly
	There is no excuse
	Dog waste can burn your lawn
	How sanitary is it to leave for others?
waste	One day's waste from one dog or cat can contain up to 5 billion bacteria
per animal	Cat (or other pet) waste also contains bacteria

Things you can do to prevent water pollution

DON'T LITTER- litter in lawns, parking areas and streets will wash into the storm sewers and eventually find its way to the stream. Put trash in plastic bags in the dumpster / trash can.

DON'T OVERFILL DUMPSTERS

CLEAN UP AFTER PETS -pet waste can be harmful to aquatic wildlife. Waste that is not picked up wash into the storm sewer or stream during rainfall events. Pick up pet waste ASAP and dispose of it in a toilet or trash can.

CAR MAINTENANCE - check your car regularly for leaks and make necessary repairs. Clean up oil spills with substances such as floor dry or cat litter. Drain fluids into a clean and tightly sealed container. **NEVER POOR AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS DOWN A STORM DRAIN, DRIVEWAY, OR ON THE GROUND.** Take used oil and filter to a collection site.

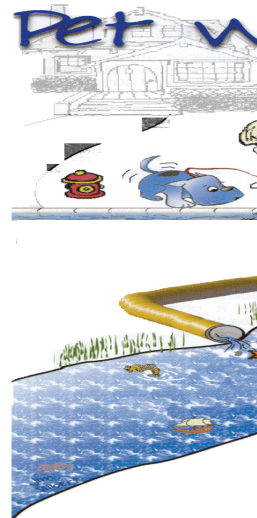
PAINT WASTE -If you paint, don't wash off brushes or rollers in the driveway, parking lot or gutter. Even water-based paints have harmful chemicals. These chemicals will wash into the storm drains and find their way to the river.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES -if you use hazardous substances such as oil based paints, solvents or cleaners, use them sparingly and in accordance with instructions on the manufacturer's label. Store them properly to avoid spilling. In the event of a spill, use absorbent materials such as cat litter to clean up the substance. Dispose of all hazardous substances from the home properly through a hazardous waste collection program.

This brochure was made possible through a Section 319 grant from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

Campbell County Conservation District

A Guide For Proper Pet Waste Disposal



Connection Pet Waste Water Quality

parent to some, especially
ve next to a body of water,
an affect the water quality
s and waterways in your
stand the connection it's
something about storm
ey work.

Ground

near your home may be a
hole, or a grassy ditch at
property. These collect
the ground and direct it to
of pipes which drain into
of water - a stream, lake
This storm drain system is
ur sewer system; typically
r passes through sanitary
facility. In other words,
ground - no matter how far
orm drain - can eventually
y waterway.

yard, on the sidewalk, or
easily end up in the storm
before our waterways).
er in the water can cause
to grow more rapidly than
bs the water of oxygen
rt fish and other aquatic
an also contain pathogens
a, viruses, and parasitic
an transmit diseases to
gh levels of bacteria are
of water, fishing and
ng are restricted because
hese pathogens pose for

There are several options available to help lessen the impact your pet can have on our waterways. Some solutions are quick and simple, while others require more time and investment. Whatever steps you take to prevent your pet's waste from entering the storm drain system, you feel good about helping to protect water quality in your area and those you visit. Following are some suggestions :

Watch what you feed your pet

What goes in must come out...The type of food you give your pet will effect the quality and quantity of pet waste you must deal with. The easier food is to digest, the more completely it will be digested, resulting in smaller stools that will decompose more quickly.

Rice - based food is the most easily digested. Soy and wheat - based foods aren't bad, but corn - based food doesn't break down well at all. Canned foods often contain red dye, which cannot be digested and will pass right through an animals system. If a food isn't easily digested, the resulting stool will not break down easily, so read labels carefully. Consult your vet if you have questions about the nutrition value of a particular brand of pet food.

Control where your pet relieves himself

This isn't just a good idea in terms of water quality; it can be a law in most cities. Many people believe that an animal won't soil its own territory and their pets won't use the back yard. This isn't necessarily true.

You can make your yard more appealing to your pet by tilling a small section of the ground, thus reserving that spot for your pets needs.

Sign posting is one of the most common outreach strategies for managing pet waste in areas outside the pet's yard. Signs can be used to designate areas where dog walking is prohibited entirely, where waste must be fully recovered, or where dogs can roam freely. Many communities post neighborhood signs asking pet owners to "Curb your Dog." The rationale behind the request is that dogs walked along the curb are more likely to defecate on the roadside, where the waste can be captured by street sweeping However, waste deposited in the road is also more likely to be washed down storm drains, so this tactic is not considered nearly as effective as a pooper - scooper ordinance. Some communities have also installed "pet waste stations" with waste receptacles equipped with supplies of waste collection bags, scoops, and shovels.

Compost your pet waste

Gather the fecal matter collected while walking your dog, cleaning your cat's litter box, or picking up your yard and compost it in a large bucket or small separate compost bin. Because the risk of transmitting intestinal parasites and worms is so high, be sure to keep the compost away from areas where children play and do NOT use it on vegetable gardens.

If waste is mixed with grass clippings and allowed to decompose, it should be safe to use on trees, shrubs or flower gardens. There are products available through pet stores and catalogs which can be added to the waste to help it decompose more quickly and without odor - just be sure to check the labels to be sure they are environmentally friendly.

Bury waste in yard

Select a spot in the yard, away from sensitive areas such as wildflowers, or vegetable gardens to bury the waste. Dig a hole big enough so the waste matter will not get mixed with other soil and keep the area covered with grass. If you want to compost the waste, you can bury it.

Flush waste the toilet or in pet septic system

If you are on a sewer system, you can dispose of the fecal matter in the toilet when walking your dog, or in a litter pan, or cleaning the litter box by flushing it down the toilet. This waste stays out of the storm drain system and is treated. **Be sure to separate dog waste from cat litter before flushing cat litter!** If you have a septic tank you may want to consider other options such as a pet septic tank. Some connect to your home's septic system; others use a separate septic system; all break down stools; all leach into the ground.



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