

Clean Water

At A Glance

pet
waste



Pet Waste

Every time it rains, **hundreds of pounds of pet waste** wash down storm drains and into rivers and streams. If not properly disposed of, pet waste flows directly **into nearby streams and rivers** without being treated.

When pet waste is disposed of improperly, water quality isn't the only thing that suffers- **your health may be at risk too**. Adults working in their gardens, children playing outside, and family pets are the most at risk for infection from some of the bacteria and parasites found in pet waste.



Proper Disposal of Pet Waste

Pick up pet waste from your yard. Bag it and toss it in the trash. It is not a fertilizer.

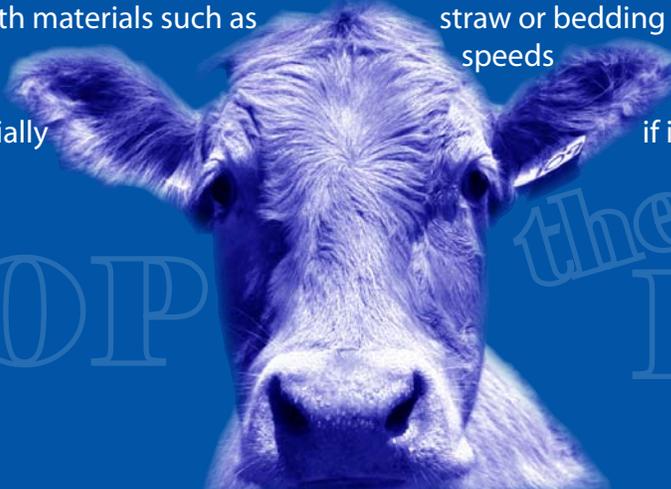
Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up and dispose of waste in a trash can.

Pet waste can be flushed down the toilet. **DO NOT** flush kitty litter or plastic bags.

Or bury pet waste in your yard, at least 12 inches deep and cover with soil to let it decompose slowly. Bury the waste in several different locations and keep it away from vegetable gardens.

Managing Large Animal Waste

If improperly managed, waste from large animals attracts flies, and rodents, and contributes to excess bacteria and nutrients in waterways and aquifers. These wastes are best composted or spread back on fields and pastures. To compost, mix with materials such as straw or bedding and protect from the rain. Periodically turning the piles speeds the decomposition into nutrient-rich compost. It is easy to sell or give away if it is properly managed. compost to gardeners, especially



SCOOP

POOP



The River Begins at Your Front Door

Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline

telephone: (541) 726-3694

online at: www.ci.springfield.or.us/ESD/complaints

