

Pet owners, beware

Pollutants found in pet waste can transmit diseases and parasites to humans.



When rain washes pet waste into stormwater drains, pollutants are carried along into natural water bodies. Common threats to health are:

Campylobacteria, carried by dogs and cats may cause a bacterial infection that frequently causes diarrhea.

Cryptosporidium, a parasite carried by dogs, cats and other mammals, may cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea or dehydration.

Toxocariasis, roundworms transmitted from dogs, may cause vision loss, rash, fever or cough.

What you can do

Take along a plastic bag in which to put your dog's waste. Then, you may choose to flush the waste down the toilet, wrap it and put it in the trash, or bury it.



Dispose waste and litter properly. Use a two-step process to clean out the cat box. First, scoop cat waste out of the flushable litter and flush it down the toilet, taking care to minimize the amount of litter you flush. Then, when litter is no longer usable, bag the litter and dispose of it in the trash, not in the toilet. Large amounts of litter flushed down the toilet may damage plumbing. **Never** flush any kind of litter if you have a **septic tank!**



Don't feed waterfowl
Feeding birds
bread and cereal is
like feeding a child
candy and soda. It
may lead to health
problems



Remember, he can't take care of himself



Helpful Hints

- Leaving pet wastes in your yard to decay can become a problem.
- To make sure water is not polluted by the waste, clean up any waste from areas near storm drains, ditches, wells and waterways.
- Always keep areas where children play free of wastes.
- It is always a good idea to wash your hands with soap and water after working or playing outside.
- Anyone who walks their dog off their own property should be prepared to cleanup after their pet.



Get the Scoop!

Use common sense to protect our community from pollution.

For more information contact:

Aiken County Public Works & Engineering
828 Richland Avenue, West
Aiken, South Carolina 29801
(803) 642-1535
(803) 642-1538 (fax)
www.aikencountysc.gov/stormwater

Or, check out some of these internet sites:

Clemson University Cooperative Extension
Service's Water Quality Home Page
<http://virtual.clemson.edu/groups/waterquality/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe
Water Home Page
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>

Aiken County Department of Engineering



Stormwater Division

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**Dog owners
can make a
positive
change in our
community by
keeping local
water
resources
clean!**

