

## 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.



For more information contact:

**Aiken County Department of Engineering**

**Stormwater Division**

1930 University Parkway

Suite 3300

Aiken, SC 29801

(803) 642-1535

[www.aikencountysc.gov](http://www.aikencountysc.gov)

or, check out some of these internet sites:

**Clemson University Cooperative Extension  
Service's Water Quality Home Page**

[www.clemson.edu/extension/water](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/water)

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe  
Water Home Page**

[www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water)



scoop the poop.



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

## *Pet Owners, Beware*

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

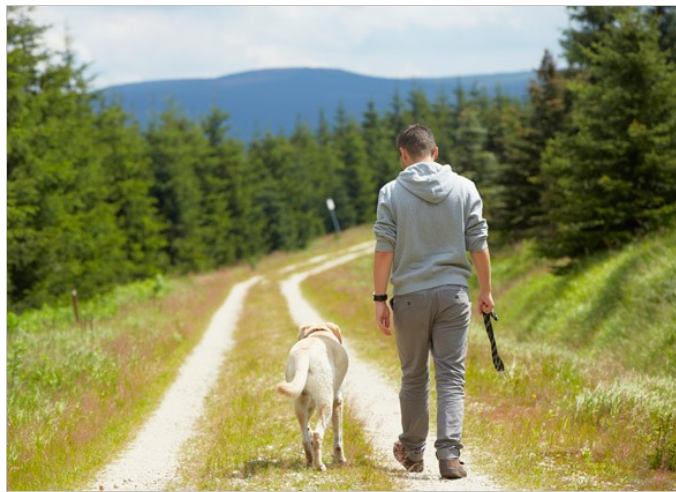


When rain washes pet waste into stormwater drains, pollutants are carried along into natural water bodies. Common threats to health are:

***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 of waste and litter properly. Use a two-step process to clean out the cat box. First, scoop the 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 the 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*

