

SCOOP THE POOP

Be the Solution to Stormwater Pollution



THE PROBLEM

Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly; it is a health risk to pets, people, and water bodies.

Pet waste left on the ground does not always dissolve or fertilize lawns. Often, it is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into our waterways.

More specifically, pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, streets, and grassy areas is carried by stormwater runoff into the storm drain before eventually discharging into a natural body of water, untreated.



Harmful effects of pet waste are:

- Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other aquatic life.
- Nutrients present in pet waste can cause excessive algal growth in a waterbody, potentially leading to fish kills and disrupting the water's natural ecology.
- Harmful bacteria such as E. Coli and Fecal Coliform can make our waters unfit for drinking, irrigation, recreation and other uses.
- Parasites present in pet waste can spread gastrointestinal illnesses in humans such as Giardia and Salmonella

The Solution:

Pet owners can help protect human health and the environment by disposing of pet waste properly.

Be responsible and clean up after your pets. It's as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Bring a bag.
2. Use the bag to pick up the pet waste.
3. Dispose of the bag properly in trash.



Radford City has prepared this educational material to meet requirements of their stormwater permit administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

For more information, contact:
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