

When Your Pet Goes on the Lawn, Remember... it Doesn't Just Go on the Lawn.



When our pets leave those little surprises, the bacteria from the waste gets washed into our storm drains and pollutes our waterways. So, what can you do? Simply dispose of the waste properly. This assures it gets treated as it should.



**Thanks to the Washington Department of Ecology, King County,
and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle, and Tacoma.**

Help Stop Pointless Pollution

**Be a part of the cleanup
of the waterways in our area.**

Clean water is important to all of us.

In recent years, sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now, more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from sources like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens, and failing septic tanks. Each of us can do our part to help clean up our water.

Why do we need clean water?

Clean water is important to our health and economy. Clean water provides recreation, fish habitat, drinking water, and adds beauty to our landscape. Everyone benefits from clean water.

What's the problem with pet waste?

Pet waste is a health risk to animals and people. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can cause illness. When it rains, harmful bacteria are washed into our storm drains and ends up in our lakes, streams or marine water. Eating contaminated fish or shellfish is harmful. Properly dispose of pet waste to prevent it from entering our waters.

How can you care for your pet and help keep our waters clean?

- Seal the waste in a plastic bag and dispose of it in the garbage. (This is legal in most areas, but check local laws.)
- Scoop it up and flush it down the toilet. Really! That's best because your community sewage treatment plant or your septic system can then treat the pet waste.
- Bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly. Dig a hole one foot deep. Put three or four inches of waste at the bottom of the hole. Cover the waste with at least eight inches of soil. Bury the waste in several different locations in your yard and keep it away from vegetable gardens.

For more information contact:

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