

Clean Water Message

PICK UP YOUR POOP!



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Phew! Dog poop stinks, is not natural to Open Space and others can step in it.

Pack a pick up bag and always pick up your dog's poop - wherever it's left. Dog poop is a health hazard to pets and people, especially children.

Thanks for bagging your dog's poop, but the job's not done until you dispose of it properly. When your pets leave those little surprises and if people don't take care of it, the waste enters our water with no treatment. Rain washes all that pet waste and bacteria into our storm drains and roadside ditches and then ends up in a lake or stream. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can make people sick.

So what to do? Simple. Dispose of it properly (preferably in the toilet). Then that little surprise gets treated like it should!

Clean Water tips:

How can you get rid of pet waste and help keep our waters clean? Here are some options.

- Scoop it up and flush it down the toilet. That's best because then your community sewage treatment plant or your septic system treats the pet waste.
- Seal the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the garbage.
- Bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly. Dig a hole one foot deep. Put three to 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.

To find out more about the problems of pet waste and what you can do to prevent water pollution, call Saratoga County Cornell Cooperative Extension's Storm water Management Coordinator at:

885-8995

or email at
brn5@cornell.edu



Clean water is important to all of us.

It's up to all of us to make it happen. 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 things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms, lawns and gardens and failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water and that adds up to a pollution solution!