## *THE REAL SCOOP…*

The average dog produces 3/4 pounds of poop every day.

There are 7,700 pets registered in the Town of Collierville. That equals:

**5,775** pounds/day

Or

**2.1 Million** pounds/year of Pet Waste in Collierville!!

Pet waste is the 3rd largest contributor of bacterial pollution in urban watersheds.

Pet waste is NOT a fertilizer. The bacteria and high levels of phosphorous are harmful to plants and grasses.

Pet waste has nutrients that promote algae growth in lakes and streams which robs the water of dissolved oxygen that fish and other aquatic life needs to survive.

SCOOP THE POOP

**It's Your "Doody"**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION OR PET WASTE ISSUES CONTACT:**


**Town of Collierville**
**Engineering Division**
**500 Poplar View Parkway**
**Collierville, TN 38017**
**(901) 457-2340**
**www.collierville.com**


INDUSTRY COMMUNITY GROWTH EDUCATION
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# Pet Waste & Water Quality:

## Its not just on the lawn, its in your water

# PET WASTE PooLLUTES

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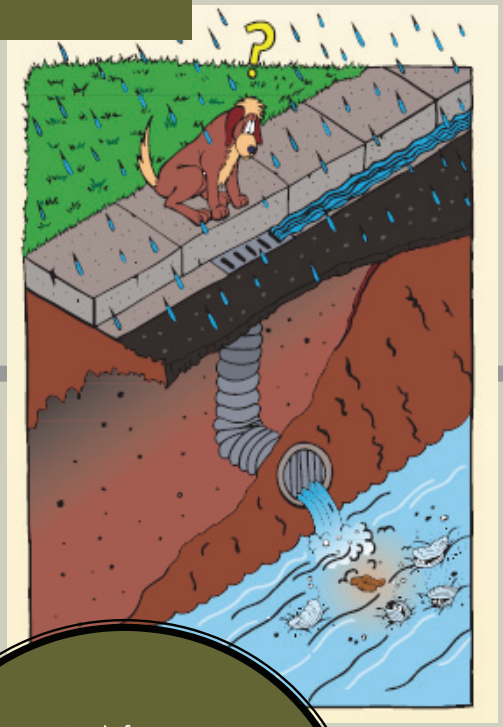
# Isn't Pet Waste Natural?

Yes, **BUT** in urban areas the amount of waste accumulates to unhealthy levels. Pet waste becomes a significant cause of storm-water pollution and presents health risks to adults, children, and other pets.



Pet waste left on streets, pavement, yards, driveways, or trails does not magically disappear or fertilize the ground. Instead it is picked up by stormwater runoff and carried through storm drains to nearby water sources.

## *WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH ALL THIS POO???*

**ALWAYS CLEAN UP** after your pet, even in your own yard. Your pet's waste is not fertilizer.

**CARRY DISPOSABLE BAGS** with you while you walk your pets.

**DISPOSE PROPERLY**:

- Throw your pet's waste in the trash. Wrap it carefully to avoid spillage during collection.
- Flush pet waste down the toilet (without the bag) where it will flow through the sanitary sewers for treatment.
- Bury waste in a hole that is at least 5-6" deep and cover it with soil away from gardens, ditches, storm drains, and waterways. It will decompose slowly, so bury waste in different locations throughout the yard.

**EDUCATE OTHERS!**
Spread the word about the harmful effects of pet waste on our environment and our health.

Exposure to pet waste increases risk for infections from disease-causing viruses, bacteria and parasites which are found in pet waste.

**Who's at risk?**

- Children playing in yards or parks
- Adult recreation and gardening
- Other pets

Some of the diseases that can be transmitted from pet waste to humans include:

***Salmonellosis***: the most common bacterial infection transmitted to humans by other animals. Symptoms include fever, muscle aches, headache, vomiting, and diarrhea.

***Toxocariasis***: roundworms usually transmitted from dogs to humans, often without noticeable symptoms, but may cause vision loss, rash, fever, or cough.

***Toxoplasmosis***: a parasite carried by cats that can cause birth defects such as mental retardation and blindness if a woman becomes infected during pregnancy; also a problem for people with suppressed immune systems.

***Campylobacteriosis***: a bacterial infection carried by dogs and cats that frequently causes diarrhea in humans.

***Fecal Coliform Bacteria***: found in the feces of warm blooded animals; poses potential health risk for those exposed to it in water.

***BECAUSE... IT AFFECTS US ALL***

**NEVER, NEVER, NEVER... Dispose of pet waste in a storm drain, catch basin, or in the street.**