

Be Prepared

- If you are prepared, picking up after your pet is easy. Simply carry a plastic bag with you on every walk with your pet, and you will have the equipment to remove your pet's waste. There are even compact, refillable bag dispensers that you can conveniently attach right to your dog's leash.
- Many parks and recreational areas have courtesy bags and disposal boxes, designed specifically for pet waste.
- Avoid letting your pet do his business within 200 feet of a water body.
- In addition, of course, never throw pet waste into a storm drain. Dispose of the waste when you get home, and do not forget to wash your hands!



HELP KEEP OUR WATERSHED CLEAN

We love our dogs! But dog waste carries harmful microorganisms that can make our waters unsafe for swimming and drinking. Picking it up can be a major benefit, particularly in paved areas, and near streams and lakes.

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

For more information,

Contact:

The Town of Windham
3 North Lowell Road
Windham, NH 03087
603-432-3806

Pet Waste Doesn't Belong in the Drain

- Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. Runoff is usually collected by catch basins and then is conveyed untreated into waterbodies that we use for recreational activities like swimming, fishing, or as a source of drinking water.
- Any pet waste dumped into catch basins will be discharged untreated to the closest stream, pond, lake or river, causing health and environmental problems, as well as becoming a public nuisance.

Did You Know?

- Pet waste significantly contributes to pollutants (bacteria and organic matter) in Windham's streams, lakes and ponds such as Canobie Lake, Beaver Brook, Golden Brook, Seavey, Mitchell, Rock, Moeckel and Cobbett's Pond, as well as any receiving wetlands.
- Pet Waste dumped or washed into catch basins (Stormwater drains) is carried directly to rivers through the Stormwater drain system. Even waste left in the street, far from a catch basin, can be washed into the drains during storms.
- Pet waste often carries viruses and bacteria that are extremely harmful to humans.
- Pet waste contains nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients that accelerate growth of damaging algae and aquatic weeds and harm aquatic life. Even on a rural road the waste can run off and run into a water body.

What You Can Do

- Always clean up after your pet, and dispose of the waste in a sealed or tied bag in a trashcan.
- Encourage your neighbors and other pet owners to be responsible; it is not hard, and it is part of the responsibility of owning a pet.

What you should not do

- Do not dispose of pet waste in a catch basin (Stormwater drain). These systems go directly to the rivers and brooks.
- Do not use pet waste as a fertilizer. Bacteria in pet waste does far more harm than good.
- Do not add pet waste to a compost pile. The pile will never get hot enough to kill disease-causing organisms.

How Much Will It Cost You?

- The Town of Windham performs cleaning of the Stormwater drain system. Pet waste that has been improperly disposed of can easily return positive results for disposal contaminants.
- When severe contamination is identified in an outfall, an investigation process begins which will identify the source of contamination per EPA's requirements.
- However, when the source of contamination is pet waste, it is almost impossible to identify the origin of the contamination, due to its sporadic nature.

- You can help the Town of Windham save thousands of dollars every year by disposing of your pet waste properly.

