

When Pet Waste is Left on the Ground, Our Water is Affected

How serious a problem is pet waste?

- Decayed pet waste seeps into the ground, sending E. coli, a bacteria that lives in the intestines of warm-blooded animals, and potential pathogens into the ground water and eventually waterways.
- Rainwater run-off may wash contaminated pet waste into storm sewers and from there into lakes, rivers and streams.

What can I do?

- Scoop up pet waste.
- Flush the waste - as long as it isn't mixed in with litter or other material - so that it is properly treated before it is disposed of.
- If local law allows, contain the waste in a plastic bag and toss it in your trash.
- If your community does not regulate the disposal of pet waste, encourage your town board, city council or county government to enact new laws.
- If your local parks do not provide pet waste stations, encourage them to do so.



Where can I get more information?

For more information, you may contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (317) 232-8172.