

Quick Health Facts:

- The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Classified pet waste as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals.
- Pet waste can spread parasites including hookworms, ringworms, tapeworms, salmonella, and roundworm.
- Roundworm eggs can remain active in the soil long after dog feces has weathered away.
- Children are most at risk. Roundworm can cause conditions such as stomach upsets, sore throats, asthma and blindness.
- Dog feces is one of the leading sources of E.coli contamination.
- 1 gram of dog feces contain over 20 million E.coli bacteria.



904 Civic Drive
Dalton, GA 30720

Haig Mill Lake Park
652 Haig Mill Lake Rd
Dalton, GA 30720

Pet Waste & Water Quality



It Starts in the Parks

www.mydprd.com

Protect the Water you and your pet love....

Did you know that your dog's waste contains 2 1/2 times the amount of bacteria as yours?

If you wouldn't want your own waste entering lakes and rivers, then you don't want your pet's waste to either! At home, picking up after your pet protects water quality, your health, and the health of your pet.

You and your Pet both love the outdoors, but did you know that failing to pick up your dog's waste can hurt the environment? Pet waste is full of bacteria, viruses and parasites. When pet waste is left on the lawn or the side of the street, all of the bacteria, viruses, and parasites in that pet waste are picked up by rain water and washed down the storm drain into the nearest creek, river or lake. This is harmful for water quality and human health.

We all live in a watershed...

That means that when rain falls where you live, it flows downhill until it reaches a water body like a river or lake. Smaller watersheds flow into larger watersheds until the water reaches the ocean, along with any pollution it carries.

Bacteria

And other pathogens in pet waste can cause illness in people (and pets!) who drink or come in contact with contaminated water. Salmonella, E.Coli, Giardia, and Toxoplasma are just a few of the harmful organisms found in animal waste. Other possible sources of bacteria and pathogens to waterways include:

- Leaking sewer systems and failing septic tanks;
- Livestock and manure not kept out of the streams;
- Water fowl such as ducks and geese.

Nutrients

In pet waste can also harm lakes by causing algae and weeds to grow in excess, turning the water green, cloudy and unappealing for swimming, boating and other uses. Algal blooms, as they are called, can use up all of the oxygen in a lake or a river and cause fish kills. Other sources of nutrients include:

- Grass clipping, leaves and yard debris;
- Over-fertilized lawns and gardens;
- Soaps and detergents from washing cars



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