

3 Steps to Pet Waste Management

Reducing pet waste pollution only takes **three simple steps:**

1. **Carry** a bag with you when you walk your pet.
2. **Pick up** waste — you can put the bag right over your hand and use it as a glove then turn it inside out and close it.
3. **Dispose** of the waste by placing it in the nearest trash receptacle.



- ◇ Pet waste may contain parasites that can make people sick if they come into contact with it.
- ◇ Nutrients from pet waste contribute to algae growth in water bodies.
- ◇ Bacteria from pet waste can make creeks, streams, rivers and lakes unsafe for swimming.
- ◇ Picking up your pet's waste is your responsibility as a pet owner — City of Auburn Ordinance No. 2815 Sec. 4-19.



City of Auburn

City of Auburn's MS4 Program

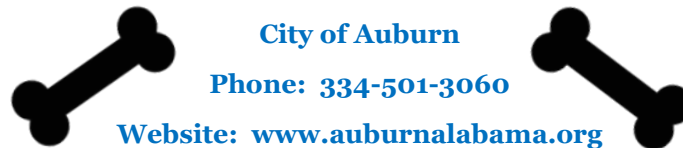
Watershed Division

Water Resource Management Department

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Help Keep
Our Waters
Clean!



Protect Our Waters!
Pick Up Pet Waste



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reduce pet waste
pollution

How Does Pet Waste Pollute Our Waterways?

When it rains, pet waste that has been left on lawns, sidewalks or in the street washes into the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4). The pet waste, along with bacteria (E. coli) and other pollutants that it carries, flows with the storm-water directly into our streams, creeks, rivers and lakes untreated.

Once it enters into a waterway, the pet waste consumes oxygen as it decomposes and can deplete the oxygen that fish and other aquatic life need to live. Nutrients from decomposed pet waste can contribute to the growth of algae, leading to uncolorful and cloudy water.

Pet waste contributes to the high bacteria levels in many creeks and rivers which can lead to unsafe swimming and fishing conditions.

One gram of dog waste contains about 23 million coliform bacteria, nearly twice the amount found in one gram of human waste.



You Can Help Prevent Pet Pollution!!

Stepping in pet waste can be annoying. Pet waste can smell and attract insects such as flies. It can also be a source of parasites and infections for other pets and for humans. Picking up your pet's waste from other yards and public spaces is common courtesy — and it is required by City Ordinance No. 2815 Sec. 4-19. Picking up pet waste can mean a cleaner and healthier environment and less water pollution.

Pet waste is a type of pollution that can easily be reduced. All pet owners need is environmental awareness and a pet waste bag. The best kind of bag to use is a biodegradable one.

When you walk your pet, you can place the bag over your hand and use it to pick up the waste. Then place the bag in the nearest trash receptacle.



Large or Small - Remove It All!

- It does not matter if your pet is large or small — it can still contribute to water pollution.
- Pet waste carries bacteria and other pollutants that wash into the MS4 when it rains. These pollutants are untreated and flow straight to our waterbodies!
- Pet waste can smell and attract bugs, as well as, make people and other animals sick.
- Do your part and dispose of pet waste properly by utilizing pet waste stations located within the City Parks, apartment complexes, neighborhoods or your nearest trash receptacle.

