ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information, contact Collin County Stormwater Program office at: 972.548.3733
Or via email at: thomfeld@co.collin.tx.us
stormwater@collincountytx.gov.

Scan the QR code below or visit www.collincountytx.gov/Services/Engineering/storm-water-program

DOO THE RIGHT THING
www.dfwstormwater.com/petwaste

DID YOU KNOW?

- Just one gram of pet waste can contain **23 million** fecal coliform bacteria, some of which can cause diseases in humans.
- There are approximately **1.5 million dogs** in North Central Texas. The average dog produces **¾ pounds of waste a day**, that is almost **1,125,000 pounds** of dog waste produced each day in our area.
- Many Collin County streams flow into Lake Ray Hubbard and Lake Lavon, key water supply reservoirs that provide drinking water and recreation (swimming, boating, and fishing).

COLLIN COUNTY



DOO THE RIGHT THING

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

STORM WATER RUNOFF

Storm water is water from rain. It flows from rooftops, through lawns, over paved streets and parking lots, and into storm drains. As it flows over surfaces, runoff collects and transports pet waste, soil, pesticides, fertilizers, oil, litter and other pollutants, which are major contributors of pollution to our creeks and lakes.

HEALTH HAZARDS

Bacteria, parasites and viruses contained in pet waste are a health hazard. These include fecal coliform, toxoplasmosis, salmonellosis and toxocariasis. These hazards can transmit infections and parasites to those who come in contact with the water, especially people with weakened immune systems and children.

OTHER PROBLEMS

Dog doo is not fertilizer. It is high in nitrogen and phosphorous, which leave burn marks on your lawn. These chemicals are also bad for our creeks and lakes. Pet waste is high in nutrients, which feed algae and cause water to become murky and green.

Decaying pet waste also uses up oxygen and releases ammonia. Low oxygen levels and ammonia, combined with warm water temperatures, can kill fish and other aquatic life. Nobody wants to swim, fish or boat in that. Excess nutrients are a major cause of pollution.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

WHAT YOU CAN DO?

✓ **Scoop the poop!** Pick up pet waste from your yard daily—**it's not fertilizer** and can harm your lawn.

✓ **Bag it & bin it.** Always carry disposable bags while walking your dog. **Seal the waste securely** before tossing it in the trash to prevent spills.

✓ **Flush it .** In some areas, flushing pet waste down the toilet ensures it's properly treated at a wastewater facility. **Check local regulations before flushing.**

✓ **Bury it properly.** If you prefer composting, **dig at least 12 inches deep** and cover with **8 inches of soil** to let waste decompose naturally. **Keep burial sites away from vegetable gardens and water sources.**



PET WASTE IN STORMWATER

Every time it rains the potential exists for thousands of pounds of pet waste to wash down storm drains and into streams, rivers and lakes. If not disposed of properly, pet waste flows directly into nearby streams and creeks without being treated at wastewater treatment facilities.

Many of our local waterways do not meet state water quality bacteria standards for recreational use. Pet waste is one of the components of non-point source pollution that contributes to our water quality problems and is one that each of us can help correct.