

Helpful Tip: Be Prepared



- Picking up after your pet can be easy with simple preparation! Carry a plastic bag with you on every walk with your furry friend. 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 their business within 200 ft of a waterbody.
- **Never throw pet waste into a storm drain.** Dispose of waste when you get home, and don't forget to wash your hands!



Help Keep Our Watershed Clean!

Consider taking a pledge to
Scoop the Poop!



Thank you!



Questions or Comments?

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Pet Waste Disposal Guide

Learn how a small effort
can make a big change in
water quality!



This brochure was produced and distributed to fulfill outreach requirements outlined in the MS4 Permit.

Pet Waste Doesn't Belong in the Drain

- Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. Runoff is typically 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.
- Pet waste dumped into catch basins will be discharged untreated to the closest pond, lake, stream, 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 pathogens) in Windham's water bodies and receiving wetlands.
- Pet waste dumped or washed into catch basins is carried directly to downstream waterbodies through the storm drain system.
- Pet waste often carries viruses and bacteria that can be harmful to humans.
- Pet waste contains nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients that accelerate growth of damaging algae and aquatic life.

What You Can Do

- Always clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in a sealed or tied bag in a trashcan.
- Encourage your neighbors and other pet owners to be responsible

What You Should Not Do

- Do not dispose of your pet waste directly in a catch basin. These systems go directly to various waterbodies.
- Do not use pet waste as fertilizer. Bacteria in pet waste does 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

Please Consider

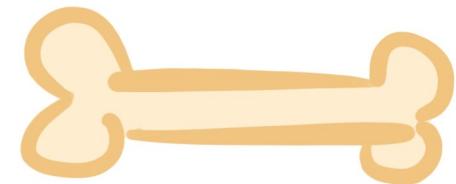
- The town of Windham performs regular cleaning of the storm drain system. Improperly disposed of pet waste can cause positive contamination results.
- When contamination is identified in stormwater drainage, an investigation process begins to identify the source of contamination per EPA's requirements.
- When the source of contamination is pet waste, it is almost impossible to identify its origin due to the sporadic nature.



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



Please refer to # WIN 2:06:21:04 for the regulations related to dogs on town property and waste disposal requirements



Thank you!