



Loudoun County lies within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the largest estuary in the United States. Land use, agricultural activities and stormwater pollution in Loudoun County affect the health of the bay.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Loudoun County appreciates your help in protecting our valuable water resources.

Codified ordinances of Loudoun County, Chapter 612.19, Section a (9).

The following shall be deemed unlawful and enforced by proceedings before a Judge of the General District Court in like manner and with like right of appeal as if such violations were Class Four misdemeanors.

Dog waste. For the owner of any dog to fail to remove immediately the dog's feces from any property...



Loudoun County has prepared this educational brochure to meet requirements of their stormwater permit administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Help Protect Loudoun County's Streams and Lakes

Scoop the Poop



Be the Solution to Stormwater Pollution



the problem

Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly; it is a health risk to pets, people, and water bodies.

Pet waste left on the ground does not always dissolve or fertilize lawns. Often, it is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into our waterways.



More specifically, pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, streets, and grassy areas is carried by stormwater runoff into the storm drain before eventually discharging into a natural body of water, untreated.

There are several stream segments in Loudoun County that are listed on Virginia's 303(d) list of impaired (polluted) waters because of benthic (aquatic insects) impairment, bacteria (Fecal Coliforms and E. Coli), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). These streams eventually drain into the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

One of the sources of stream pollution in Loudoun County is pet waste.



Loudoun County Streams: Polluted Streams are Indicated in Red

the facts

Some of the harmful effects of pet waste are:

- Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other aquatic life.
- Nutrients present in pet waste can cause excessive algal growth in a waterbody, potentially leading to fish kills and disrupting the water's natural ecology.
- Harmful bacteria such as E. Coli and Fecal Coliform can make our waters unfit for drinking, irrigation, recreation and other uses.
- Parasites present in pet waste can spread gastrointestinal illnesses in humans such as Giardia and Salmonella.



- On average nationally, there are 0.58 dogs per household.
- Each dog produces approximately 0.42 pounds of fecal waste per day.
- In 2007, Loudoun County had an estimated 95,666 households; the number is projected to increase 30% in 2017 to 132,209 households.

Dog waste generated in Loudoun County:
 $0.58 \text{ dogs} \times 95,666 \text{ households} \times 0.42 \text{ lbs/day}$
= 23,304 lbs. of dog waste per day; 4,253 tons per year!!

(Source: Information packet on pet waste by Loudoun County's Dept. of General Services)

the solution

Pet owners can help protect human health and the environment by disposing of pet waste properly.

Be responsible and clean up after your pets. It's as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Bring a bag.



2. Use the bag to pick up the pet waste.



3. Dispose of the bag properly in trash...



and not down the storm drain!

