

# Campaign to Protect and Restore the Taunton River Watershed

## Poop Pickup

Lawns/  
Gardens

Cleaning Up After Your Dog



### WHY?

Car Care



Poop pollutes. Thousands of dogs live in the Taunton watershed and their waste is a health risk when deposited on streets and lawns. It can be washed down **storm drains** and end up in our brooks, streams and rivers, and lakes and ponds. The bacteria, together with other pollutants, can make the water unsafe for swimming

Pet Waste

and cause health hazards for humans and aquatic life. It may be difficult to picture how one dog depositing a small amount of animal waste here and there can result in potential water pollution, but studies have shown that the cumulative impact of waste from all the pets, livestock, and resident waterfowl within a watershed can have a significant impact on water quality. Here's how to take care of your pet's poop without polluting your neighborhood and its water quality.

Clean  
Dishes/  
Clean  
Streams

### HOW?

Rooftop  
Runoff

- ◆ When walking your dog, bring a small trowel or "pooper-scooper" and a plastic bag.
- ◆ Make sure your pet does not pee directly on the pavement. It is less likely the next rainstorm will wash the waste into the storm drains or local tributaries.
- ◆ After your pet does its business, scoop the poop and place it in the bag. Tie it shut until you get home.
- ◆ Flush the poop down the toilet or place the bag in your garbage can.
- ◆ It's not just your dog! Feeding ducks and geese may seem like a harmless activity, but in actuality, it can be a nuisance to people and harmful to our water. Feeding waterfowl causes them to become dependent on humans. This, in turn, creates unnaturally high populations and problems in our parks and lakes. Waterfowl waste can pollute our water with harmful bacteria.

Household  
Hazardous  
Waste

Pervious  
Surfaces

### RESOURCES

<http://www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes/tips/7.html>

Stream  
Buffers

### BENEFITS

You help keep the watershed healthy, protecting fish and wildlife habitats. You also make your neighborhood more enjoyable.

more →

