



Pet Waste and Stormwater Pollution Prevention



City of Fort Lauderdale
Environmental Services Division
954-828-8000/www.fortlauderdale.gov




Pet Waste Disposal

Pet waste that is not picked up and properly disposed of is more than a nuisance; it pollutes local waterways. Stormwater or any other water runoff carries abandoned pet waste to storm drains that discharge into waterways. This can lead to beach closures, public health and environmental issues. The following information will assist you with preventing stormwater pollution by managing pet waste to keep waterways healthy and neighborhoods inviting.

- ◆ Pick up after your pet. It is unlawful to not pick up after your pet. Leaving pet waste behind is a form of littering punishable under the City of Fort Lauderdale's Code of Ordinances.
- ◆ Carry biodegradable plastic bags or a scooper to collect your pet's waste.
- ◆ Encourage other pet owners to clean up after their pet. Offer an extra bag to a pet owner without one.
- ◆ Teach your children to properly dispose of pet waste.
- ◆ Dispose of pet waste in the trash or a place reserved for pet waste. Never dump it into a storm drain.
- ◆ Never flush pet waste down the toilet. It wastes water.
- ◆ Never hose pet waste into the ground or use it as fertilizer. It can find its way into ground water sources.
- ◆ Pet waste contains diseases and parasites that can infect other pets or humans who come in contact with it.
- ◆ Decomposing pet waste absorbs oxygen from the water, which kills fish and plant life.

Report illegal dumping into the storm drain or sanitary sewer system, clogged storm drains, or overflowing manholes by calling the 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000.

If you would like this document in an alternate format (large print, audio tape), please call 954-828-4746 or e-mail webmaster@fortlauderdale.gov.

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