IF YOU DON'T

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET,

IT MIGHT AS WELL

POOP IN THE RIVER.

Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which flows directly into our streams, lakes, rivers and the ocean.
So what can you do?

CLEAN WATER

It's Up to You New Jersey

www.cleanwaterNJ.org

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH PET WASTE?

Rain can wash pet waste that sits on a lawn or unpaved surface into storm drains, ultimately ending up in our lakes, rivers and the ocean. Pet waste contains coliform bacteria and other pollutants that can make people sick, and often cause beach closures on lakes or the ocean. Coliform bacteria can contaminate shellfish, which causes people to get very sick when they are eaten. Bacteria from pet waste can also pollute your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. Pet waste is not only a health hazard but also a nuisance in our neighborhoods.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Use newspaper, plastic bags, or a pooper-scooper to pick up the waste when you walk your pet.
- Properly dispose of pet waste into the trash or toilet. (Do NOT dispose of newspaper or plastic bags in the toilet.)
- Do not dispose of pet waste in storm drains.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, a place for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly to our streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean.

Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste, and detergents? By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NEW JERSEY

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