

What's the Problem with Dog Waste?

Dog waste left in our yards, forest areas and parks can have many adverse effects on the environment.

It's full of harmful bacteria and excess nutrients.

Besides being a neighborhood nuisance, dog waste can make people sick, especially children who are more likely to come into contact with it while playing.

Dog waste left on lawns can also kill or damage grass and other plants.

When dog waste is washed into lakes or streams, the waste decays, uses up oxygen in the water, and sometimes releases ammonia. This can kill fish!

Dog waste also contains nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth.

Too much of these nutrients turn water cloudy and green . . . imagine this in your backyard pond or stream!



Managing dog waste properly is something easy that everyone can do to make a difference in the quality of our surface waters.

**Brought to you by the
Town of Paxton**



DOG WASTE AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Rainfall and snowmelt in the Town of Paxton goes untreated into our stormwater system, then directly into local streams, ponds, rivers and lakes.

As it flows, stormwater picks up contaminants and pollutants in its path.

That's why it's
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rtant to make sure that dog waste and its
pollutants do not end up in the storm drains.

What's So Bad About Dog Waste?

*Bacteria and other parasites
found in pet waste, such as*

***Giardia and Cryptosporidium,**
can survive for long periods when
left on the ground.*

*During a rain storm, these
pollutants can be washed into
local rivers and ponds and into
local drinking water supplies.*

Individual actions can result in significant
water quality improvements when carried
out by many people.

Unlike some forms of stormwater
pollutants, individual people can easily and
economically manage dog waste and help
keep our waters safe and aesthetically
pleasing.

How You Can Help



BRING IT – Always bring a plastic bag
when you walk your dog.

BAG IT – Use the bag as a glove to pick
up the dog waste. Scoop it up and turn the
bag inside out around the waste.

DISPOSE IT – Properly dispose of dog
waste by putting it in a trash can. **Never
throw dog waste down a storm drain.**

AND REMEMBER

- Pick up after your pet in your yard
- Only bring your dog where dogs
are allowed.