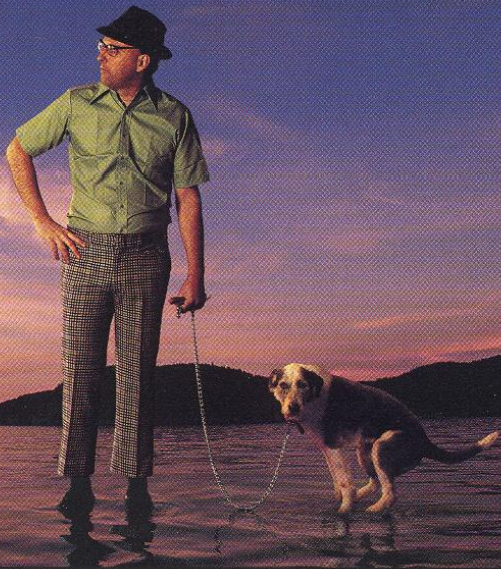


Think Your Pet Is Only Going on the Lawn?

THINK AGAIN...

Protect the Yough and Mon River Watersheds

www.fayetted.org



When pets leave those little surprises, rain washes all that pet waste and bacteria into our storm drains and then into the Youghiogheny and Monongahela Rivers. This pollutes our waterways. So, what can you do? Simple. Dispose of it properly (preferably in the toilet). Then that little surprise gets treated like it should.



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The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection;
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The Philadelphia Water Department;
and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Inc.

We All Live Downstream...Help clean-up the Yough & Mon River Watersheds!

It's up to all of us to make it happen. In recent years, "point sources" of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now the number one water pollution problem comes from "non-point sources," things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers washing off fields, lawns & gardens, & failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem but if each of us does some small things to help, it will add up to a ***pollution solution!***

Why do we need clean water?

Clean water is of vital importance for our health, economy & environment. Each of us benefits daily from clean water & each of us have an important role in protecting our waterways both now & in the future. The Youghiogheny & Monongahela Rivers provide us with recreation, fish & wildlife habitat, drinking water & commercial opportunities not to mention being the strong hold of our beautiful landscape. By keeping our lakes, rivers, ground waters & wetlands clean, we ensure our own healthy & happy existence.

What's the problem with pet waste?

It's a health risk to pets & people, especially children. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can make people sick. If it's washed into the storm drain & ends up in a lake, stream or river, the bacteria ends up in fish. People who eat those fish can get very sick.

What can I do?

- 💧 Scoop up pet waste regularly. As long as the droppings are not mixed with litter or other materials, flush it down the toilet. That's best because then your community sewage treatment plant or your septic system treats the pet waste.
- 💧 Bag your pet's waste & throw it in a trashcan.
- 💧 Never put pet waste into a storm drain.
- 💧 If your community does not regulate pet waste (e.g. "scooper" law), try to make it a priority of your local governing body.
- 💧 Encourage your neighborhood to provide pet waste stations for collection & disposal of waste. Check to see if the parks in your neighborhood have them.
- 💧 Bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly. Dig a hole one foot deep. Put three to four inches of waste at the bottom of the hole. Cover the waste with at least eight inches of soil. Bury the waste in several different locations in your yard & keep it away from vegetable & herb gardens.


For more information:

To find out more about the problems of pet waste & what you can do to prevent water pollution, contact the Fayette County Conservation District at (724) 438-4497 or check out the following websites:
www.fayetted.org, www.dep.state.pa.us, www.epa.gov and/or www.stormwatercenter.net.



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