



Pet Waste Threatens Area Rivers, Lakes, and Streams

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MEMPHISSTORMWATER.com

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Pet waste is more than an annoyance for pedestrians, it contains bacteria, viruses, and parasites and poses a serious threat to our rivers, lakes, and streams. In addition to looking and smelling bad, animal waste can wash into drain inlets during storm events. Storm water, carrying the waste flows from the inlets through the drainage system and discharges into local creeks and rivers and eventually into McKellar Lake and the Mississippi River. In addition to increasing bacteria levels, decomposing animal waste demands a high level of oxygen from the water. By reducing the amount of available oxygen, aquatic life suffers.

Fortunately, it is safe and easy to “Scoop the Poop.” The simplest method is to place your hand inside a plastic bag, pick up the poop, then turn the bag inside out and tie. Then, just place the bag with your household garbage for pick-up and it will be transported to a sanitary landfill. If bending is a problem, most pet supply stores sell products that allow you to pick up the waste while remaining upright.



City of Memphis Storm Water Department personnel work diligently to protect our waterways. But we need the help of every citizen of Memphis. Only YOU can PREVENT contamination.

It is a violation of
City of
MEMPHIS
Ordinance 4538

if you do not clean up after your pet.

**PLEASE BE PROUD OF YOUR CITY.
HELP KEEP OUR WATERWAYS
CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL.**

For more information about this topic or the City’s Storm Water Department, call 901-636-4349 or visit MemphisStormWater.com