



## WATER PROTECTION GUIDE TO Pet Waste

### Outside your home

- Pick up after your pet at home using bags or a scooper and place in a trash can.
- Pick up waste whether it is in your backyard or around your neighborhood or apartment complex.



### At the park

- Be prepared, carry bags with you to pick up pet waste.
- Carry a few extras with you in case you meet someone in need.
- Collect your pet's waste in a bag and deposit it in a trash can.

### On the trails

- Pick up pet waste and place bags in a secondary container for easy carrying back for proper disposal.
- Never leave bags on the side of trails - there is no one designated to clean them up.
- Keep your dog leashed unless allowed otherwise; your dog should always be within sight and able to hear your call.



# Keep pet waste out of our streams

Pet waste contains harmful bacteria, parasites, and nutrients that do not belong in our waterways. This includes pathogens that can cause serious illness in humans.

Rain and melting snow carry these pollutants from yards, parks, and trails to local streams.

Nutrients from pet waste can cause harmful algae growth and negatively affect aquatic life.

**Approximately 77,300 dogs live in Boulder County. A single dog can create 0.75 lbs. of waste in a day, which means Boulder County dogs can create 58,000 lbs. of waste every single day!**

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## From your Home to the Creek

**Polluted stormwater enters storm drains and flows directly to local waterways without receiving treatment at sewage plants.**



Common household activities can be sources of pollutants



Rain and snow pick up pollutants and carry them into roads as stormwater



Stormwater enters storm drains on roads and flows through underground channels



Stormwater flows through these channels directly into local creeks without being treated

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## Boulder St. Vrain Watershed

Our watershed is home to over 300,000 residents who depend on it for drinking water, floodplain functions, recreation, and other services. A watershed is an area of land where all streams and rainfall drain to the same place. A healthy watershed means a healthy community, environment, and economy.

Learn more about our watershed and how you can help protect it at [www.KeepitCleanPartnership.org](http://www.KeepitCleanPartnership.org).

