CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT in and around your home by following these simple pet practices. Your pet, family and neighbors will appreciate their clean comfortable surroundings.

HOUSEHOLD PETS

We all love our pets, but pet waste is a subject everyone likes to avoid. Pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, streets and grassy areas can be washed into the nearest waterway when it rains. Even if you can’t see streams or lakes near you, rainfall (stomwater) or sprinkler runoff can wash pet waste into the storm drains that carry runoff to the nearest streams or lakes untreated. The risk of stormwater contamination increases if pet waste is allowed to accumulate in outdoor animal pen areas or left on sidewalks, streets or driveways.

Pet waste contains nutrients and bacteria. Nutrients can promote the growth of algae in streams and lakes. Algae can cause fish kills and other environmental damage if it is fed too many nutrients. Pet Waste also contains e. Coli and fecal bacteria, which can cause disease in other animals and humans that come in contact with it when swimming or splashing in streams and lakes. Dogs also carry salmonella and giardia, which can make people sick.

Pet waste that is not picked up and properly disposed can also increase vector problems. Flies and other insects are not only attracted to and feed on pet waste, but can also be infected with diseases and spread those diseases to humans and other animals.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- SCOOP up pet waste and flush it down the toilet or place in trash can.
- NEVER DUMP pet waste into a storm drain or catch basin.
- USE the complimentary bag or mutt mitts offered in dispensers at local parks.
- CARRY EXTRA BAGS when walking your dog and make them available to other pet owners who are without.
- TEACH CHILDREN how to properly clean up after a pet.
- TELL FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS about the ill effects of animal waste on the environment. Encourage them to clean up after pets.

Call 1-800-506-2555 TOLL FREE to report illegal dumping to the storm drain, find the dates and times of local Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events, obtain additional information on stormwater problems and solutions, request presentations about stormwater pollution in your child’s classroom, or learn about free gr access and composting workshops.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANIMAL SERVICES LOCATIONS:

www.rccal.org

BLYTHE
16490 West Hobson Way
Blythe, CA 92225
760-921-7377

COACHELLA VALLEY ANIMAL CAMPU
72-050 Petland Place
Thousand Palms, CA 92276
760-343-3644

RIVERSIDE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES
6551 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92509
951-685-4340

OTHER ANIMAL SHELTERS:

ANIMAL CARE CENTER OF INDIO
45-355 Van Buren
Indio, CA 92201
760-391-4185

ANIMAL FRIENDS OF THE VALLEYS
29001 Bastron Avenue
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530
951-674-0616
(Serving incorporated Temecula, Wildomar,
Lake Elsinore, Murrieta and Canyon Lake)

MARY S. ROBERTS PET ADOPTION CENTER
6185 Industrial Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504
951-685-4340

RAMONA HUMANE SOCIETY
650 Humane Way
San Jacinto 92586
951-654-5005
(Serving Sun City, Menifee, Romoland and Homeland)

Looking to adopt a pet?
This website is linked to many animal shelters. www.petfinder.com
To report illegal storm drain disposal, call 1-800-506-2555
Or visit our website at www.rcfood.org
E-mail fmpet@rcfood.org
**Scoop the Poop**

Many communities have “Scoop the Poop” laws that govern pet waste cleanup. Some of these laws specifically require anyone who walks an animal off their property to carry a bag, shovel, or scooper. Any waste left by the animal must be cleaned up immediately. Call your local code enforcement office to find out more about pet waste regulations.

**Other Ways to Protect Your Pets and the Environment**

Pets are only one of many sources that contribute to water pollution. However, these other sources of water pollution cannot only harm the environment but also harm your pet. Improperly used or stored lawn fertilizers, pesticides, soaps, grease, and vehicle fluids cannot only be washed into local streams and lakes, these chemicals can also harm your pet if they ingest or touch these chemicals. Call 1-800-506-2555 for information regarding how to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes such as these. You can also keep your pets and our environment healthy by properly maintaining your vehicles, and limiting use of pesticides and fertilizers to only the amount that is absolutely needed.

Make sure to not only protect your pets, but to also protect your neighbors pets. Never hose vehicle fluids into the street or gutter. Use absorbent materials such as cat litter to clean-up spills. Sweep up used absorbent materials and place it in the trash.

**Horses and Livestock**

Fortunately enough to own a horse or livestock? You, too, can play a part in protecting and cleaning up our water resources. The following are a few simple Best Management Practices (BMPs) specifically designed for horses and livestock.

- **Store** your manure properly. Do not store unprotected piles of manure in places where stormwater runoff may wash the manure away. Place a cover or tarp over the pile to keep rainwater out.

- **Build** a manure storage facility to protect your pets property and the environment. These structures usually consist of a concrete pad to protect groundwater and a short wall on one or two sides to make manure handling easier.

- **Read** the Only Rain Down the Storm Drain brochure titled “Tips for Horse Care” for additional guidance and resources. This brochure is available from your local city office or for download at www.rcflood.org/stormwater.

- **Keep** animals out of streams - Horses and livestock can deplete streams causing stormwater pollution. Livestock and horses in streams can also disturb sensitive habitat and vegetation, causing additional environmental damage. Keep livestock and horses away from streams and use designated stream crossings whenever possible.

- **Material Storage Safety Tips**

  - Buy only what you need.
  - Treat spills of hoof oils like a fuel spill. Use kitty litter to soak up the oil and dispose of it in a tightly sealed plastic bag.
  - Store pesticides in a locked, dry, well-ventilated area.
  - Protect stored fertilizer and pesticides from rain and surface water.

**Resource Conservation Districts can help**

Call 1-800-506-2555 for assistance with locating a local conservation district that can help you properly manage your manure, re-establish healthy pastures, control weeds, or identify appropriate grasses for your soils.

Thank you for doing your part to protect your watershed, the environment, your pets and your community!