

Congratulations



on your
NEW
Dog or
Cat!

Don't Poo-Poo The Rio!

A recent study found that one-fourth of river contamination comes from domestic dog waste.

Pet waste left on the ground can wash into streets, storm inlets, pipes, arroyos and storm drains and end up, **untreated**, in the Rio Grande. The biggest threat to our river water quality is bacterial contamination, including *e-coli*.

Whether you're:

- Walking in town,
- At a dog park,
- Hiking in open space or wilderness,
- Cleaning out the litter box,
- Or even just maintaining your own back yard...

Please clean up your pet's waste and dispose of it properly!



 MID RIO GRANDE
STORMWATER QUALITY TEAM
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KEEP THE RIO GRANDE!



Once in the river, pet waste uses up oxygen when it begins to decay, harming fish and aquatic life and making our river water unsafe. It can also contribute large amounts of *e-coli* bacteria to the river.

Dog Waste

Please pick up after your dog whenever you walk along a street, visit a dog park, take a walk in a public park or walk in an open space area.

- Bring paper or plastic bags with you.
- Place the waste in the bag.
- Tie it shut.
- Dispose of the bag in a trash (NOT recycling) container.
- Pick up the pet waste in your yard regularly.



Cat Waste

Even “flushable” cat litter can clog sewers and septic tanks – do not throw ANY cat litter down the drain or in the toilet! Instead, follow these steps to dispose of litter:

- Scoop out the litter box regularly.
- Place the contents in a paper or plastic bag.
- Tie the bag securely.
- Dispose of the bag in a trash (NOT recycling) container.



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