



SCOOP YOUR POOP
GRAB IT
BAG IT
TOSS IT

There IS NO Poop Fairy!

Thousands of pets create tons of pet waste each day! If not disposed of properly, that waste can:



- **Make the water in the Rio Grande unsafe.**
- **Infect children and adults with disease-causing bacteria and parasites.**
- **Spread disease between pets.**

Pet Waste Can Affect Our River, People and Pets.

Pet waste left on the ground can wash into storm drains and end up in the Rio Grande, contributing large amounts of *e-coli* bacteria to the river.

Improper disposal of pet waste can put our health at risk, too. Pets and children who play in yards or parks where pet waste is not picked up are at risk for infection from disease-causing bacteria and parasites, such as:

Campylobacteriosis – causes diarrhea in humans.

Salmonellosis – causes fever, muscle aches, headaches, vomiting and diarrhea.

Toxocariasis – can potentially cause vision loss, a rash, fever, or a cough.

Toxoplasmosis – can cause birth defects if a woman becomes infected during pregnancy and can also be a problem for people with depressed immune systems.



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.



 **STORMWATER QUALITY TEAM**
www.keeptheriogrand.org

