

# An Easy Fix for Fido

When rainwater falls to the ground some of it soaks in, but much of it drains into local streams, rivers, and lakes. Along the way, rainwater can pick up pollutants left on the ground or discharged in storm drains. One of the most common pollutants being washed away by rain is pet waste. It's easy to overlook, but failing to pick up after your pet can have negative consequences for our water quality in Grayson.

Pet waste is not “natural” and does not act like fertilizer in the environment. In fact, it can contain nutrients and bacteria (and other microorganisms) that can create a health risk for local ecosystems and the public. These pollutants contribute to algal blooms that can degrade water quality and could expose people to pathogens. This is because our pets live with us and pick up our dirt, bacteria, and refuse, then pass that with their waste.

The good news is that preventing this pollution is easy. As pet owners in Grayson, we can make a big difference by simply picking up after our furry friends and disposing of waste properly. We can do this by carrying pet waste bags on walks and throwing the waste in a trash can—never in storm drains or yards. Another important step is to pick it up at home. Pet waste in the backyard can add up to create a significant source of pollution.

By taking these small steps, we can all help keep Grayson's water clean and safe for everyone. To learn more about how pet waste and other pollutants impact our water quality, visit [gwinnetth2o.com](http://gwinnetth2o.com) and go to the “Get Educated” page.

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**For more information about protecting our water resources  
visit the Get Educated page at [www.Gwinnetth2o.com](http://www.Gwinnetth2o.com)**

