

More storm drain questions?

Still have questions about how this all works? Unsure if a chemical you're using is safe for storm drains? Call us at 480-350-4311 for answers.

To report illegal discharges to storm drains, call (480) 350-4311 or visit:

www.tempe.gov/stormwater

Public Works Department Environmental Services Section

P.O. Box 5002
Tempe, AZ 85280

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Pet waste and storm water pollution



Picking up pet waste while walking your dog does more than protect your nose and feet. It can also make a difference in water quality.



How can pet waste pollute our water system?

Pet waste contains bacteria and pathogens that can become a health risk if large quantities enter our stormwater. Waste that is left in parks, on streets and near sidewalks often ends up mixing with stormwater runoff and entering storm drains. Stormwater drains directly into lakes, rivers and streams without any treatment. Large amounts of pet waste can introduce parasites and bacteria into that water, which can make recreational water bodies unswimmable and cause harm to humans and animals.

You can make a difference.

One pile of pet waste can grow into a larger health concern if pet owners ignore their responsibility to clean up after their pets. That's why we urge Tempe residents to care for their environment and their community as much as they care for their pets!.



Be a responsible pet owner.

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Bring a bag.
2. Pick up your pet's waste.
3. Dispose of the waste in the toilet or trash can.



The significance of storm drains.

The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. This water drains directly into our lakes, rivers and streambeds. Since stormwater is not treated, it must be kept free of pollutants at its source. Water that washes over the ground - during a rainstorm or street cleaning, for example - can pick up pollutants prior to entering the storm drain.

Some of the most common sources are:

- Pet waste
- Car oil leaks
- Fertilizers from farms and gardens
- Failing septic tanks
- Chemicals from residential car washes

While the actions of one household might contribute small amounts of pollution, the combined effect of an entire neighborhood or community can have a serious effect.

**Help Keep Your Environment Clean.
Make Sure Only Rain Goes Into The
Storm Drains!**