

Pet Waste Pickup: Protect Your Avon Drinking Water



Drinking water is no place for pet-waste

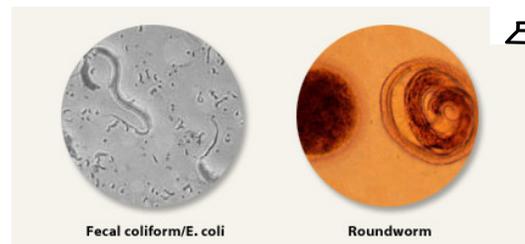
Avon's drinking water comes from underground wells around Town. Pet-waste left on streets, pavement, lawns, and driveways can have a significant impact on our health, and the health of our streams and ponds. When not properly disposed of, pet waste can be picked up by stormwater runoff and distributed into the watershed through storm drains.

Our wells are recharged by this stormwater, as it percolates through the ground. Disease-causing bacteria and parasites from pet waste are introduced into the environment increasing the risk of infection and other ailments detrimental to one's health.

Stormwater is also discharged to our streams and ponds. The waste begins to decompose depleting oxygen levels and increasing the amount of nutrients in the surrounding water. The nutrients can cultivate the perfect circumstances for an algae bloom to occur which can be catastrophic to the ecosystem.

Stormwater runoff

In urban areas, stormwater flows over impervious surfaces such as pavement and rooftops. This flow collects debris, chemicals and other pollutants (like pet waste). Instead it settles in gutters, ditches, storm drains and drainage basins, recharging groundwater, or flows into our streams and ponds.



*A single gram of dog feces can contain
23 million fecal coliform bacteria*

Three steps for prevention

- Use a bag to clean up the waste
- Dispose of the waste in the trash
- Tell others to do the same

Benefits of prevention

- Cleaner neighborhoods
- Lowered potential for disease
- Lessen environmental harm



*Avon Town Clerk
Avon DPW*