

# CLEAN WATER BEGINS AT HOME



## Animal Waste

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Waste from pets and other animals can pollute our water. When stormwater contacts waste and washes off yards, pastures, sidewalks, and streets during storms it can enter our local streams, lakes and rivers. Here are a few measures you can take to reduce your animal's effect on our water.

- Clean up after your pet. Pet waste left on sidewalks, streets or yards contain numerous pollutants such as nutrients and bacteria. Discard your pet's waste by flushing it down the toilet or bagging it and throwing it in the trash.
- Wash your pet either in the house or on the lawn. Bathwater shouldn't enter the storm drain.
- Consider using non-toxic alternatives to flea and tick powder.
- Cover manure piles with a structure or plastic tarp to reduce runoff. Build a small ridge of vegetated soil around manure pile to prevent nutrient-rich manure drainage from reaching storm water paths.
- Compost stall bedding and manure. For information on composting, call the Clark County Master Composter/Recyclers at (360) 882-0936.
- Don't feed ducks or geese near a calm body of water. It is not healthy for the birds, and their droppings contribute bacteria and nutrients to the pond or stream.
- Consider planting grass in or around pens and kennel areas to act as a filter for runoff.
- Sweep and clean animal keeping areas weekly to collect and dispose of droppings, uneaten food, and other stray particles. Never hose down the area to a storm drain.

For more information call (360) 342-5070 or check out our website at [www.cityofbg.org](http://www.cityofbg.org)

