

# PET WASTE AND WATER POLLUTION



Pet waste is carried by rain, melting snow, and ice to storm drains that empty into rivers, lakes, and the ocean. It also reaches reservoirs which supply much of the drinking water in New Jersey.

Pollution due to pet waste negatively impacts swimming, boating and fishing in these water bodies.

Pet waste contains microorganisms that can cause bacterial diseases, roundworms and parasitic infections.

In addition, pet waste contains harmful levels of nutrients which promote excessive algae and plant growth. This can rob the waterbody of oxygen, potentially killing all aquatic life in the area. Such nutrient pollution also causes waters to become cloudy and green.

## Proper Pet Waste Disposal

Flush it down the toilet.

\*But do not flush bags, debris, or nonbiodegradable items\*

OR

Put it in the trash.

**THANK YOU FOR  
DOING YOUR PART  
TO KEEP  
NEW JERSEY'S  
WATERS CLEAN**



For More  
Info

- NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Regulation [https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/msrp\\_home.htm](https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/msrp_home.htm)
- EPA- Polluted Runoff: Nonpoint Source Pollution <https://www.epa.gov/nps>