Scoop the Poop

Dogs for the Environment

Why?

Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly: it is a health risk to pets, creeks, lakes, and people, especially children. Pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, streets, and grassy areas are immediately flushed into the nearest waterway when it rains. Like human waste, animal waste may contain harmful bacteria and viruses, making the water unfit for irrigation, recreation, or other uses. These bacteria and viruses can pose health risks to humans, such as Campylobacteriosis and Salmonellosis. In addition, pet waste contains nutrients that will speed up the growth of nuisance algae in lakes and rivers.

It's the law!

Austin City Ordinance 3-3-7

DEFECATION BY DOGS OR CATS.

"It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to promptly remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, feces left by a dog or cat on property, public or private, other than the premises of the owner or handler of such dog or cat."

Watershed Protection
Development Review

Make a Difference.

The Watershed Protection and Parks & Recreation Departments have teamed up to help clean up parks and trails. Look for Mutt Mitt dispensers in many of your favorite parks including the Town Lake Hike and Bike trail. Mutt Mitts are designed to make scooping poop painless. Simply follow the directions on the dispenser box and throw the bag in the trash. The bags are biodegradable. If at home, your grocery bags will work.

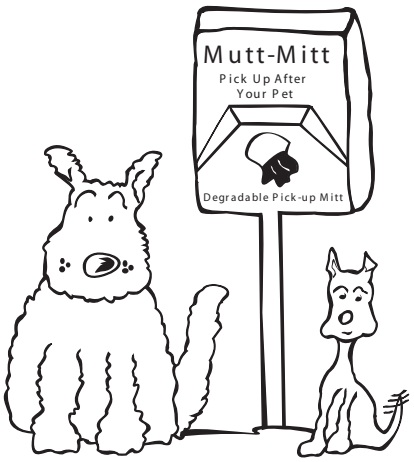
Here are ways to keep pet waste out of local waterways.

1. Flush it.

2. Toss it. (in the trash)

3. Bury it.

(If you bury it, be sure that it is at least 6 inches deep, and away from gardens and water sources)



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For more information or questions call 974-2550
or visit us at
www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/petwaste.htm