

WHEN YOUR PET GOES ON THE LAWN, REMEMBER IT DOESN'T JUST GO ON THE LAWN.

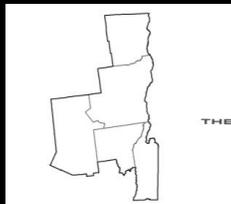


**When our pets leave those little surprises, rain washes all that
pet waste and bacteria into our storm drains.
And then pollutes our waterways.**

So what to do? Simple.

**Dispose of it properly (preferably in the toilet).
Then that little surprise gets treated like it should.**

The Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board would like to thank the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle and Tacoma and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.



For more information contact us at
(518) 668-5773 or lcgrpb@verizon.net.

It's up to all of us to protect and maintain the health of our watersheds.

In recent years "point" sources of water pollution like industrial factory wastes have been greatly reduced. Now, more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from "non-point" sources like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms or lawns, and failing septic tanks. All of these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water too and that adds up to a pollution solution!

Why Do We Need Clean Water?

Having clean water is of primary importance for our health, environment, and economy. Clean water provides recreation, commercial opportunities, fish habitat, drinking water and adds beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from clean water and we all have a role in getting and keeping our lakes and streams clean.

What's The Problem With Pet Waste?

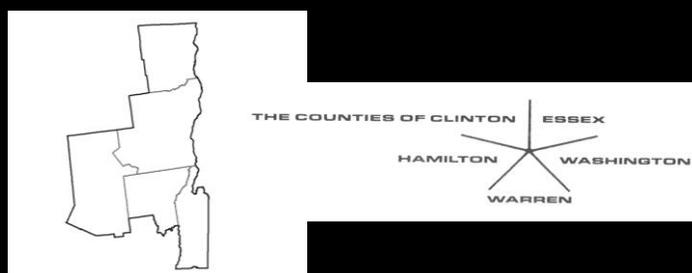
It's a health risk to pets and people, especially children. It's a nuisance in our neighborhoods. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can make people sick. If it's washed into the storm drain and ends up in a lake or stream, the bacteria ends up in water. People who come in contact with that water can get very sick. The waste produced by dogs and cats in a large city is equivalent to approximately 50,000 people. Unless we take care of it, the waste enters our water with no proper treatment.

Clean Water Tips:

How can you get rid of pet waste and help keep our waters clean?

- ♦ **Scoop it up and flush it down the toilet. That's best because then your community sewage treatment plant or your septic system treats the pet waste.**
- ♦ **Seal the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the garbage. (This is legal in most areas, but check local laws.)**
- ♦ **Bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly. Dig a hole one foot deep. Put three to four inches of waste at the bottom of the hole. Cover the waste with at least eight inches of soil. Bury the waste in several different locations in your yard and keep it away from vegetable gardens.**

To find out more about the problems of pet waste and what you can do to prevent water pollution, call the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board at (518) 668-5773.



This information is brought to you by the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board. Established in 1967 the board serves five counties in upstate New York with economic and environmental assistance.