



SHAWNEE
K A N S A S

Neighborhood Watershed



Pick Up After Your Pet

Every time it rains, thousands of pounds of pet waste wash down storm drains and into streams, rivers and lakes. If not disposed of properly, pet waste flows directly into nearby streams and creeks without being treated at wastewater treatment facilities.

Pet waste affects water quality

When pet waste is disposed of improperly, water quality isn't the only thing that suffers - your health may be at risk, too. Adults working in their gardens, children playing outside and family pets are the most at risk for infection from some of the bacteria and parasites found in pet waste.

What you can do:

- Pick up pet waste from your yard. It is not a fertilizer.
- Do not place pet waste in the storm drains.
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up and dispose of waste properly. When you dispose of pet waste in the trash, wrap it carefully to avoid spilling during collection.
- Bury pet waste in your yard, at least 12 inches deep and cover with at least eight inches of soil to let it decompose slowly.
- Bury the waste in several different locations and keep it away from vegetable gardens.
- Contact your local parks department to inquire about providing pet waste stations in area parks, along trails and in public places where people frequently walk their dogs. Shawnee Parks and Recreation maintains several waste stations along trails in our City parks.

Picking up after your pet results in:

- A cleaner, safer yard for your children and their friends to play in.
- A cleaner, safer environment in the outdoor areas where you walk your dog.
- Control of vectors which can spread disease.
- Protection of the water ways in your area as well as those downstream.

Pet waste can introduce serious problems:

- Too many nutrients in the watershed. Pet waste is not to be considered fertilizer on your yard. Excess nutrients over-stimulate the growth of algae and nuisance weeds which can lead to an imbalance of plant growth in our water bodies allowing undesirable proliferations (blue green "algae").
- Pet waste decay (and decay of excess dead algae) in water ways depletes the oxygen in the water which can lead to fish kills.



Stormwater Management
11110 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, KS 66203



Healthy Yards Expo

Back by popular demand is the **FREE** “Healthy Yards Expo!” This event will be held on **Saturday, March 29th**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Shawnee Civic Centre, located at 13817 Johnson Drive. Come learn about good maintenance practices for your lawn and **FREE** soil testing. For more information on the Johnson County’s Healthy Yards Expo, visit www.johnson.ksu.edu or call 715-7000.



Go GREEN and Save Money!

Not only can you go GREEN, but you can save some GREEN with your own rain barrel! Shawnee is offering a class on **Saturday, April 12th** participants will learn how to build their own rain barrels. The workshops will take place at 10:00 a.m. at the Parks Maintenance Facility, 12321 Johnson Drive. All supplies are included with the \$50 class fee. Participants can sign up at www.shawneeconnect.org or by calling 631-5200.

Grant reimbursements are available for 50% of the cost of the class through the BMP Cost/Share Program! Call 742-6292 for more information about the grant.



Contact the Stormwater Division to report an illicit discharge or stormwater related issue at 742-6230 or stormwater@cityofshawnee.org