

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**DOG WASTE FACTS:**

- Dog waste is NOT fertilizer for your lawn. Due to their high protein diet, dog waste is highly acidic and will burn your grass creating brown patches.
- Just one gram of dog waste can contain as many as 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. This waste can seep into groundwater and spread salmonella, giardia, and other diseases.
- Dog fecal matter is a major contributor to stormwater pollution. When in water, the liquified waste consumes oxygen and releases ammonia which contaminates our resources as well as harms the fish that reside there.
- Your lawn mower doesn't help, in fact it can make it worse. Mowers chop up the waste into smaller pieces and spread it further throughout your yard where you, your children, and your pets continue to step in it and bring it into your home.
- The EPA classifies dog waste as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oil.
- The CDC confirms that hookworms, ringworms, tapeworms, and salmonella can be spread by contact with infected dog waste. It can take over one year for dog waste to decay, but even when it has visibly disappeared the parasite eggs it contained can linger for years in your soil.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Pick up waste from your yard and dispose of it in trash.
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up and dispose of them in trash containers.
- Avoid letting your dog do his business within 200 feet of a water body.
- Never use pet waste in your garden or compost.