

What can you do?
It's simple !!

Pet waste pollution control
begins with you:

BRING IT!

Always bring a plastic bag, or
two, when you walk your dog!

BAG IT!

Use the bag as a glove to scoop
the waste, then turn the bag
inside out and seal.

DISPOSE OF IT!

Place the bag in a trash can or
flush it, unbagged, down a
toilet. Never dispose of pet
waste in a storm drain as it will
then flow directly, untreated,
to your local waterway. Pet
waste can also be carefully
buried at least 5" deep, away
from vegetable gardens or
waterways, or even composted.



COMMUNITIES INVOLVED INCLUDE:

City of Marshfield
City of Merrill
City of Mosinee
City of Schofield
City of Stevens Point
City of Wausau
City of Wisconsin Rapids
Village of Kronenwetter
Village of Rothschild
Village of Weston
Town of Rib Mountain
Marathon County (Coordinating Agency)

WEBSITE:

http://www.mosinee.wi.us/public_works/Storm%20Water.html

Created: March 2011

NORTHCENTRAL WISCONSIN STORMWATER COALITION



When your pets leave those
little surprises, rain water or
snow melt washes that pet
waste and bacteria into your
storm drains, which goes
DIRECTLY to the nearby lake
or river and pollutes them.
What to Do?? **SIMPLE !!**
Dispose of pet waste by picking
it up and throwing it in the
trash or flush it down the



CLEAN WATER IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US

It's up to all of us to make it happen. In recent years sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now, more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from NONPOINT SOURCES. All 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 and economy. Clean water provides recreation, fish habitat, commercial opportunities, drinking water and adds beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from **clean water**—and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, and ground waters clean.

What is nonpoint source pollution?

[Nonpoint source \(NPS\) pollution](#), unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, comes from many diffuse sources. Things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms, lawns, and gardens, failing septic tanks and PET WASTE. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and ground waters.

Why you should pick up after your pet . . .

Pet waste is the source of two types of pollutants: **pathogens** (disease-causing microorganisms), which have a direct effect on human health, and **nutrients**, which influence the environment you live in.

1. **Pathogens**, such as Salmonella, Giardia, roundworms, and parvovirus, which can end up in our water where they may pose a health risk. Leaving the pet waste anywhere on the ground may expose children, adults and other pets to diseases. There is also a real risk of getting sick from drinking or swimming in waters contaminated by pet waste.
2. Pet waste adds **Nutrients** - nitrogen and phosphorus to the water. In large amounts, these nutrients encourage the runaway growth of algae and aquatic weeds, which can impact the health and quality of our waters, making them murky, green and smelly.