

## Pet Waste Pickup

Pet waste left in our parks, yards or other open areas can be washed away and carried by rainwater into roadside ditches to nearby rivers, lakes and streams which causes many problems, among them:

- 1. Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other animals that rely on water to live.
- 2.Pet waste contains nutrients that can cause excessive algae growth in Lake Winnebago upsetting the natural balance.
- 3. Pet waste contributes to bacterial contamination of our rivers, lakes and streams. Pet waste contains harmful bacteria such as E. Coli and fecal coliform. Waters that contain a high amount of bacteria such as E. Coli are unfit for human contact. A single gram of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria, some of which can cause disease in humans.

Whether in your yard or walking your dog, you can easily do the right thing. Purchase a device made especially for the task or simply use a plastic bag. Then, just place the waste in a garbage can, flush down the toilet or bury it in your yard. Everyone will be happier when you pick up after your pet! Also, who wants to step in it let alone swim in it!

Please note we do have a pet waste pickup ordinance (Section7-1-6(e)) which **requires** picking up after your animals. Please do the right and considerate thing and pick up after your pet.