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## **POOFacts**

Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly- it is a health risk to pets, bodies of water, and people, especially children. Pet waste left on trails, sidewalks, streets, and grassy areas is flushed into the nearest waterway when it rains. Even if you can't see water near you, the feces go into your stormdrain where, in most cases, it travels to your neighborhood creek or lake untreated.

**Did you know that an average-sized dog droppings produces 3 billion fecal coliform bacteria?**

Like human waste, animal waste may contain harmful bacteria and viruses, rendering the water unfit for irrigation, recreation, or other uses. In addition, pet waste contains nutrients that will accelerate the growth of nuisance algae.

Roundworms, *E. coli*, and *Giardia* are just a few of the many harmful microorganisms that can be transmitted from pet waste to humans. Some can last in your yard for as long as four years if not cleaned up. Children who play outside and adults who garden are at greatest risk of infection.

**PET WASTE IS  
RAW SEWAGE—  
PICK IT UP!**

City of Cañon City  
Engineering Dept.



Stormwater  
Management  
Program  
News

COMMUNITY  
EDITION

# **STORMWATER HOTLINE**

## **276-5265**

**CALL THIS NUMBER TO REPORT AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE!**

### **City Ordinance Prohibits Illicit Discharges**

**Illicit Discharge:** is defined as any direct or indirect discharge other than stormwater into the City's Storm Sewer System, including gutters!.

City Ordinance provides enforcement and civil penalties of up to

**\$250 per violation per day!**

## April 14th- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

### THE CITY OF CAÑON CITY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM MISSION IS TO PROTECT THE WATER QUALITY OF THE ARKANSAS RIVER FROM POLLUTANTS FOUND IN URBAN STORMWATER RUNOFF

When improperly disposed of, household hazardous waste can create a potential risk to people and the environment. Household hazardous wastes are sometimes disposed of improperly by individuals pouring wastes down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or putting them out with the trash. The dangers and use provided on the label of such disposal methods may not be immediately obvious, but certain types of household hazardous waste have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers; contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets; and present hazards to children and pets if left around the house.

Because of the potential risks associated with household hazardous wastes, it is important that people always use, store and dispose of materials containing hazardous substances safely. To help our community take care of these wastes properly so they don't end up in stormwater runoff and ultimately the Arkansas River, the City of Cañon City Stormwater Program in cooperation with the Upper Arkansas Recycling Program are going to hold a household hazardous waste collection day April 14th.

**For more information about  
the Household Hazardous  
Waste Collection Day  
Call Beth at Arkansas Valley  
Recycling Program 275-1675**

### **WHAT IS HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE?**

Some jobs around the home may require the use of products containing hazardous components. Such products may include certain paints, cleaners, stains and varnishes, car batteries, motor oil, and pesticides. The used and unused contents of such consumer products are known as "household hazardous waste".

Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste per year. The average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of household hazardous waste in the basement and garage and in storage closets. Individually, the waste that is hazardous may seem insignificant, but in the aggregate.....Picture, for example, a city of 50,000; if every household contributes an average of five gallons of hazardous material to the solid waste stream each year, there would be over 250,000 gallons of waste each year which would convert to roughly 41 1/3 tons of hazardous waste per year. Whether cleansers, paints, batteries, or motor oil, household hazardous waste should be of grave concern to all citizens.

### *Examples of items that will be accepted will include:*

Adhesives—hobby glue, caulking, sealers, aerosols.  
Automotive Products—cleaners, solvents, fuel, injector sprays, brake sprays, brake fluid, antifreeze, carburetor cleaner, paint, degreaser, additives, and used motor oil/filters.  
Batteries—both automotive and other types, Cleaners/Waxes, Flammable liquids, Lubricants, Paints and Poisons such as Herbicides and Pesticides.

### *Examples of items that will NOT accepted include:*

Ammunition, explosives, biological waste, syringes, infectious waste, fire extinguishers, gas cylinders, isocyanates, radioactive waste—e.g. smoke detectors, tires, paper/newspaper, glass, plastic, metal, trash, televisions or appliances.

