**Pet Waste and Water Quality**

Did you know the deposit Fido made on the lawn this morning is a growing threat to our environment? Did you also know that studies have found that 40% of pet owners do not pick up after their pets?  The average dog produces a half a pound of waste per day. If 40% of the pet owners in Montgomery County don’t pick up after their four-footed friends, the dog waste is left behind on the ground to decompose or be carried away by stormwater runoff to our creeks and waterways.

When pet waste reaches our waterways, the untreated bacteria, nutrients and parasites contaminate the water and pose health risks to humans and other animals. Don’t let your dog be a canine sewage pipe. Flush your dog’s waste down the toilet, toss it in the trash or better yet, get a doggy composter.

**Be a responsible pet parent; always remember to Stop, Stoop and Scoop.  Your pet(s) and the environment will thank you!**