

SIMPLE WAYS TO LOVE YOUR PET AND THE ENVIRONMENT!



Always clean up after your pets by properly disposing of their waste in the trash or even in a toilet. The City of Salem has Mutt Mitt dispensers located along the Roanoke Valley Greenway to assist you in this process. Simply slip a mitt or plastic bag on your hand, grab the waste, invert the bag and toss it.

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Salem Rotary Dog Park** is located at 1321 Indiana Street. It is open daily from 6am – 10pm and there are both large and small dog sections Check out www.salemva.gov for more information.



Dogs are not allowed in Salem Parks. Please take advantage of the Salem Rotary Dog Park and your Roanoke River Greenway.



FIVE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE PET WASTE POLLUTION

1. Always clean up after your pet.
2. Bag dog waste & place it in the trash.
3. Flush pet waste down the toilet.
4. Never dispose of waste in storm drains.
5. Be a responsible dog owner.



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SALEM VA
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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Here's the Scoop

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY,
YOUR COMMUNITY,
YOUR DOG AND
THE ROANOKE RIVER



CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

SALEM VA
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



PET WASTE DISPOSAL, WATER QUALITY AND YOUR HEALTH

ARE YOU RISKING YOUR HEALTH?



When pet waste is left on the ground or disposed of improperly, water quality suffers and your health may also be at risk. Children who play outside are at the highest risk of infection from bacteria and parasites found in pet waste. Flies may also spread diseases found in pet waste.

Diseases that can be transmitted from pet waste to humans include:

CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS: A bacterial infection carried by dogs and cats that frequently causes diarrhea in humans.

SALMONELLOSIS: The most common bacteria infection transmitted to humans by other animals. Symptoms include fever, muscle aches, headaches, vomiting and diarrhea.

Dog waste also contains roundworm, e. coli bacteria, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis, giardiasis, and cryptosporidiosis. You can significantly reduce these health risks by picking up after your pet.

ARE YOU POLLUTING OUR WATER?



The Roanoke River flows through the City of Salem. A 2006 George Mason University study conducted for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality stated that 29% of the samples collected from the Roanoke River, between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 2002, exceeded the fecal coliform bacteria criteria standard. This bacteria is present in the intestinal tracts of all warm-blooded animals. It is an indicator of a potential health risk to anyone exposed to the water.



The nutrients and organic matter in pet waste can also cause significant water quality degradation. Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms that block sunlight and kill underwater vegetation. Decaying pet waste uses up dissolved oxygen in the water that fish and other aquatic life depend on to live.

Be a responsible pet owner and help keep the Roanoke River clean by picking up after your pet.

ARE YOU BEING RESPONSIBLE?



NO POOP ZONE

Pet waste is a significant source of fecal bacteria in Salem. When it is not properly disposed, it can wash into our storm drains. These storm drains do not connect to water treatment facilities and drain directly into Mason Creek and the Roanoke River.

