

**TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA**

# **PET WASTE AND WATER POLLUTION**



*The Township of Sparta has adopted and enforces an ordinance that requires immediate and proper disposal of solid pet waste deposited on any property not owned or possessed by the pet owner or keeper.*

Pet waste is carried by rain, melting snow, and ice to storm drains that empty into rivers, lakes, and the ocean. It also reaches reservoirs which supply much of the drinking water in New Jersey.

Pollution due to pet waste negatively impacts swimming, boating and fishing in these water bodies.

Pet waste contains microorganisms that can cause bacterial diseases, roundworms and parasitic infections.

In addition, pet waste contains harmful levels of nutrients which promote excessive algae and plant growth. This can rob the waterbody of oxygen, potentially killing all aquatic life in the area. Such nutrient pollution also causes waters to become cloudy and green.

## **Proper Pet Waste Disposal**

**Flush it down the toilet.**

**\*But do not flush bags, debris, or nonbiodegradable items\***

**OR**  
**Put it in the trash.**

**THANK YOU FOR  
DOING YOUR PART  
TO KEEP  
NEW JERSEY'S  
WATERS CLEAN**



**For More  
Info**

Township Website:  
<https://www.spartanj.org>

- NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Regulation <https://dep.nj.gov/njpdes-stormwater/municipal-stormwater-regulation-program/example-ordinances/>
- EPA- Polluted Runoff: Nonpoint Source Pollution <https://www.epa.gov/nps>