



If we don't want it on our SHOES... ...do we want it in our WATERWAYS?

Blackberry Creek's designated use *primary contact recreation* (swimming) is impaired by fecal coliform. Pet owners in Aurora, Elburn, Montgomery, North Aurora, Sugar Grove, and Yorkville and in unincorporated Kane and Kendall counties — listen in and get the “scoop” on how you can be part of the solution now and plan for a future that conserves our water resources.

Pick up after your pet!

Pet waste on the lawn contaminates our streams and rivers. Bacteria from pet waste makes our water unsafe for swimming and drinking while excess nutrients encourage undesirable weed and algae growth. In addition, decaying fecal matter consumes oxygen in the water, which kills fish and Inhibit other aquatic wildlife.

Water from rain and melting snow runs over our properties, collecting pollutants as it goes. This stormwater runs to the nearest storm drain and discharges *untreated* into the bodies of water we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

Stormwater in urban areas may contain pollutants from fertilizers and pesticides, motor oil, road salt, household chemicals, and pet waste. Stormwater in rural areas may contain sediment from exposed soil, nutrients, pesticides, and bacteria from livestock manure.

Other Culprits:



The fowl business of geese
Buffers of native plants along the edge of detention ponds will deter geese (and their droppings!). For information, contact The Conservation Foundation (www.theconservationfoundation.org).



Check your septic!
Malfunctioning septic systems can contaminate local water quality. Contact the Kane or Kendall County Health department to learn more about regular maintenance and repair (kanehealth.com; health.co.kendall.il.us).



On the farm
Manure piles and animals pens should be sheltered from the weather and buffered by vegetation to prevent polluted runoff. Check with the Kendall or Kane-DuPage County Soil and Water Conservation District for more information and technical assistance (kendallswcd.org; kanedupageswcd.org).

This project is made possible by Section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act by way of a grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Bureau of Water to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP).

