

Campaign for a Fishable/Swimmable Blackstone River

Poop Pickup

Cleaning Up After Your Dog



Lawns/
Gardens

WHY?



Poop pollutes. Thousands of dogs live in the Blackstone watershed and their waste is a health risk when deposited on streets and lawns. It can be washed down **storm drains** and end up in our brooks, streams and rivers, and lakes and ponds. The bacteria, together with other pollutants, can make

Terrific
Trees

Car Care

the water unsafe for swimming and cause health hazards for humans and aquatic life. It may be difficult to picture how one dog depositing a small amount of animal waste here and there can result in potential water pollution, but studies have shown that the cumulative impact of waste from all the pets, livestock, and resident waterfowl within a watershed can have a significant impact on water quality. Here's how to take care of your pet's poop without polluting your neighborhood and its water quality.

Pet Waste

Rooftop
Runoff/
Rain
Gardens

HOW?

- ◆ When walking your dog, bring a small trowel or "pooper-scooper" and a plastic bag.
- ◆ Make sure your pet does not pee directly on the pavement. It is less likely the next rainstorm will wash the waste into the storm drains or local tributaries.
- ◆ After your pet does its business, scoop the poop and place it in the bag. Tie it shut until you get home.
- ◆ Flush the poop down the toilet or place the bag in your garbage can.

Household
Hazardous
Waste

Pervious
Surfaces

- ◆ It's not just your dog! Feeding ducks and geese may seem harmless but, in fact, can be a nuisance to people and harmful to our water. Feeding waterfowl causes them to become dependent on humans. This, in turn, creates unnaturally high populations and problems in our parks and lakes. Waterfowl waste can pollute our water with harmful bacteria.

Stream
Buffers

RESOURCES

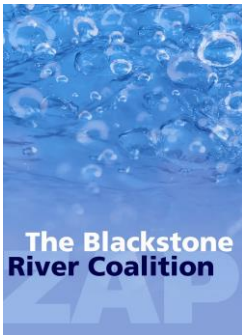
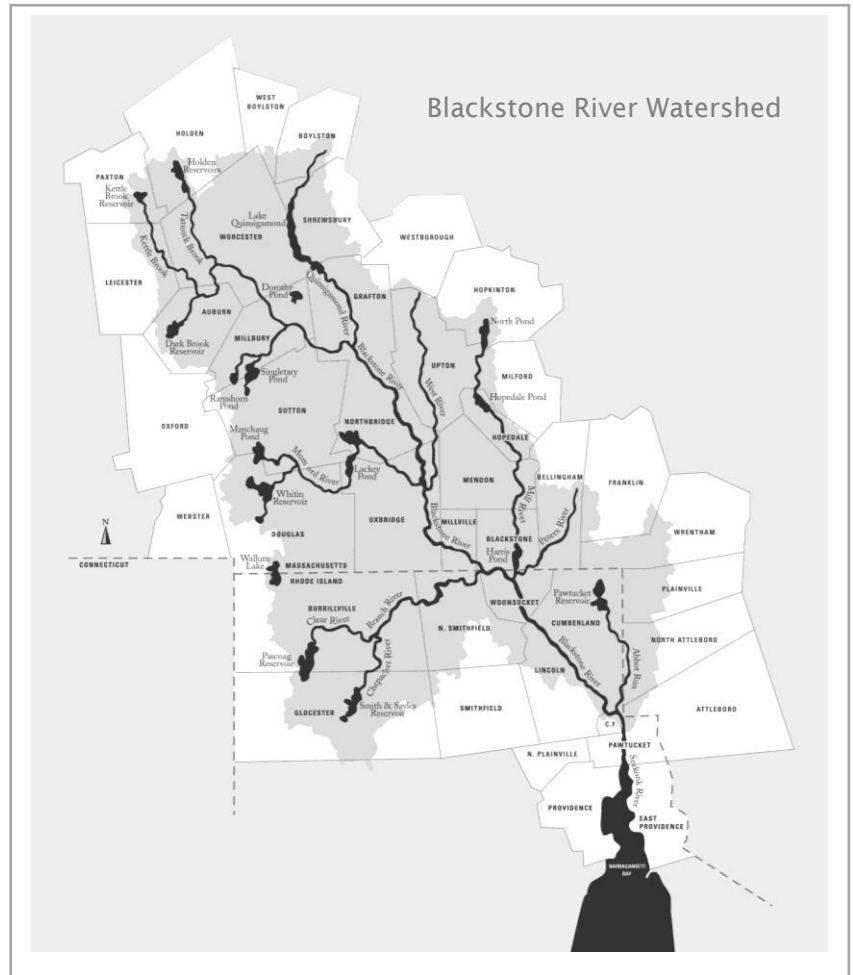
<https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/files/pet%20care%20fact%20sheet.pdf>

BENEFITS

You help keep the watershed healthy, protecting fish and wildlife habitats. You also make your neighborhood more enjoyable.

more →

If you live within the shaded area on the map, then you live in the Blackstone River watershed.



The Blackstone River Coalition is a partnership of numerous organizations working to restore the Blackstone River and improve the health of its watershed. For more information contact BRC Coordinator Peter Coffin at 508-753-6087 or peter.coffin@zaptheblackstone.org.

This guide was developed by Mass Audubon for the BRC.



Blackstone River Coalition www.zaptheblackstone.org

