



**Benton County Willamette River Basin
TMDL Implementation Plan Annual Report**
for the Period of October 31, 2010 to October 31, 2011

November 2011

During the reporting period, Benton County worked towards the first steps of implementation of the approved Willamette River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plan (Plan) for Benton County. The Plan was submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in March of 2008 and officially approved by DEQ in June of 2008.

As detailed in the attached Annual Status Matrix, County Staff has:

- ◆ Completed an Inventory, Community Meetings, and monthly Advisory Group meetings with EPA Region 10 grants funding to complete a two-year project (see <http://www.co.benton.or.us/cd/riparian/timeline.php>) which was intended to meet all TMDL riparian protection goals of developing riparian protection regulations through 1.) Updating the County riparian and wetland map/inventory, 2.) Outreach and Education, 3.) Adoption of Comprehensive Plan and Development Code provisions. The Riparian and Wetlands Project website can be reviewed at: <http://www.co.benton.or.us/cd/riparian/index.php> Ongoing work to analyze riparian vegetation protection and address high level of public concerns regarding private property impacts.
- Provided continued updates to the Environmental Section on the County website to centrally locate information and links regarding TMDL work and requirements as well as NPDES Phase II Stormwater Management Program efforts (current website can be reviewed at <http://www.co.benton.or.us/cd/environment/water.php>).
- Provided a range of outreach and education to interested stakeholders and community residents on the water quality work and requirements, including:
 - Information on proper pet waste disposal mailed with all dog license renewals
 - Compilation of water quality related brochures from OSU-Extension Service, which will be made publicly available near the permits desk.

- Finalized Illicit Discharge requirements which include tracking of sedimentation, bacteria, and other dumping that could negatively impact water quality.

Focus within the next reporting period will be completion and implementation of the Benton County Riparian and Wetlands Project and updates to County code and/or non-regulatory program approaches to meet TMDL temperature, bacteria requirements

Please contact us with questions.

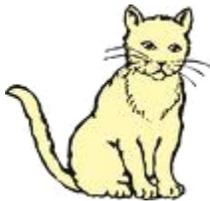
“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

Submitted by: _____ Date: _

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Benton County Community Development Director
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Attachments

Pet Waste Brochure Sent Directly to Kennel Owners in Benton County



Pet Waste and Water Quality

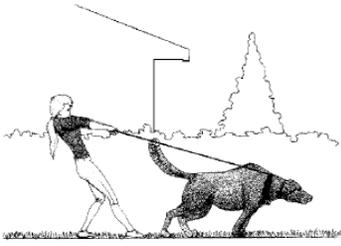
How you and your pet can help protect our drinking water and streams



Did you know that leaving dog waste or cat waste near ditches, storm drains, streams, or wells can cause pollution and health problems?

As rainwater washes off streets, sidewalks, gardens, and lawns, it picks up harmful things such as pet waste, oil, pesticides, fertilizers, and sediment. **The rain carries these pollutants into storm drains and ditches. Most of this polluted water then flows directly into our streams, not into a water treatment plant.**

Pet waste carries diseases that can sicken people. It is important to keep pet waste away from wells, ditches, storm drains, and streams.



Also, **pet waste hurts animals that live in streams.** Pet waste that gets washed into streams uses up oxygen when it decays. The lack of oxygen harms the animals and hurts stream health.

Simple things YOU can do to protect drinking water and keep streams clean

Cleaning up after your pet can be as simple as taking a plastic bag and paper towel on your walk. What should you do with the waste you pick up? No solution is perfect, but here are choices:

☺ **Bury it in the yard.** Dig a hole 6 inches deep and away from vegetable gardens, play areas, and at least 50 feet from streams, ditches, and wells. Microorganisms in the soil will break down the waste and release nutrients to the soil. (Don't add pet waste to your compost pile. The compost won't get hot enough to kill disease-causing organisms.)

☺ **Flush it down the toilet.** The water from your toilet goes to your septic tank or to the waste-water treatment plant. Make sure your septic system can handle the increased load. Don't flush clay cat litter, rocks, or sticks. Cat feces may be scooped out and flushed, but used clay litter should be put in a securely closed bag in the garbage.



☺ **Put it in the trash.** Pet waste can cause health problems for garbage handlers and problems at the landfill. Securely wrap the waste before putting it in the trash. Don't put it in the yard debris container.

☺ **Keep it away from water.** If you leave pet waste in your yard, prevent water pollution by cleaning up areas

within 50 feet of wells, ditches, streams, and storm drains.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our water clean and safe.



Community Development
Department