

## Clean dogs are happy dogs....

Mobile pet grooming has become popular to many local dog owners and dog-friendly communities because mobile pet groomers provide convenient grooming services to pet owners while minimizing stress on both, owner and dog.



Mobile pet grooming is convenient to pet owners, however, without a fixed sewer system, the groomers must ensure proper disposal of chemicals and wastewater produced while serving their clients.

Additionally, mobile pet groomers must ensure their vehicles are equipped and maintained properly to prevent leaks of chemicals and wastewater.

This brochure was created to assist Chatham County's mobile pet groomers in following best management practices (BMPs) so that local waterways are not polluted due to illegal dumping of chemicals and wastewater into stormdrains and local waterways.

**and happy dogs need clean water!**

## Keep Debris Out!



Debris can clog your vehicle's drain!

Using simple metal or plastic drain strainers can help maintain flowing drain systems in your grooming vehicle.



Drain strainers can help reduce the amount of solids such as nail clippings and fur trimmings from entering the tub drain. These solids cause clogs in your vehicle's plumbing and accumulate in the graywater reservoir.



### Questions? Contact Chatham County Department of Engineering

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County  
Department of  
Engineering



## Mobile Pet Groomers' Guide to Stormwater Pollution Prevention



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Only Rain Down  
the Storm Drain

## What is “Stormwater”?

**Stormwater** is a common term for rains that fall and flow over the ground during a storm. In Chatham County, there are often large storms that produce high volumes of stormwater.

Stormwater flows off of roads, lawns, pavement, parks, and sidewalks draining directly into a **storm drain** which flows untreated into nearby waterways like lakes, tidal creeks, marshes, and the ocean.



Stormwater entering a storm drain should be clean rainwater; however, that is not the case. Chatham County has stormwater pollution.

**Stormwater pollution** is caused when stormwater flows over the ground and collects pollutants like pet waste, chemicals, and litter. Stormwater pollution washes down the storm drain and enters nearby waterways. Stormwater pollution causes water pollution, harms wildlife and humans, and negatively impacts the natural coastal beauty.

This brochure highlights the best management practices (BMPs) for how mobile pet groomers can have clean pets and clean waterways.



## Only Rain Down the Storm Drain!



There's no hiding the fact that mobile pet groomers can help keep stormwater clean!

Pets can contribute various poo-lutants to nearby waterways through fecal contamination. Fecal coliform bacteria, such as Escherichia Coli, or E. coli, salmonella, and campylobacter can be found in pet wastes along with various parasites such as giardia, parvo, tapeworms, and roundworms can enter natural waterways from pet waste and fecal residue left on the ground.

### It's not just a poo thing....

Problems don't stop with fecal contamination. Another way that stormwater becomes polluted through mobile pet grooming services is through wastewater discharge.

When grooming pets, it is important to dispose of soap, dyes, flea/tick control shampoos, and topical medications to a sewage system to allow water treatment to remove these additives.



Solids such as fur and nail trimmings should be removed and placed in a trash bin. Storm drains do not filter or treat water. **ONLY** clean water can be disposed of down a storm drain.

## Properly dispose of your graywater!

Wash water from your mobile grooming service vehicle is classified as polluted water known as graywater, also spelled as gray water, greywater, or grey water.



Graywater, the contaminated water from a wash tub or sink, contains soaps and other materials from washing. Graywater is polluted and should **NEVER** be dumped onto the pavement or down the storm drain.

Draining graywater into the storm drain means you are polluting nearby waterways. Disposing of graywater in this manner is known as an illegal discharge into the storm drains. Such illegal activity causes water pollution of our nearby waterways and marshes. Also, this illegal discharge can incur a hefty fine should this activity be reported.

Keep the local waterways clean and avoid a fine! Dispose of graywater properly and keep graywater out of the storm drain!



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