How to handle this important responsibility in an increasingly urbanized community

Regular collection of manure from stalls and confinement areas is essential to the health of your animals and your land. Good manure management can reduce mud; limit parasite reinfestation and fly breeding grounds; prevent nutrients from contaminating surface and groundwater; and improve aesthetics. Collected manure can be composted and applied to pastures, providing essential nutrients for grass and beneficial organisms that improve the soil.

The Issue

As owners of horses and other farm animals find themselves on increasingly small pieces of acreage in today’s highly urbanized society, the question of how to deal with the waste that the animals produce becomes an increasingly difficult one. Options available to animal owners on greater acreage in more rural areas are not available to the urban dweller. And while horse and other forms of farm animal waste do provide a good source of fertilizer, the animal's output often exceeds the landowner’s need. When that happens, the waste becomes a management problem and a potential environmental threat.

Environmental Concerns

Improperly stored animal waste can enter the watershed via seepage and runoff. The sooner the waste is removed from the site, the less likely that it will have that opportunity. Herbivore waste that enters the water system, although not toxic, can contribute to several problems in rivers, lakes and Puget Sound: nitrogen loading, decreased oxygen, algae bloom, contamination of shellfish beds, and damage to fish habitat and food sources.

On Being a Good Neighbor

Horse ownership in an urban area holds with it an inherent responsibility to maintain your animals in such a way that they do not prove to be a nuisance to your neighbors. Animal waste that accumulates can contribute to fly problems and is also unsightly.

What is the Right Waste Disposal Option for You?

1. **On Site: Compost and Spread**
   - Separate enterprise (time, space, equipment)
   - Need Pasture (approximately 2 acres per 1000 pound animal)

2. **Container** This option is usually best for larger stable operations, over fifteen 1000 pound animals).

3. **Dump Truck** If you have access to a truck, this can be a good option.

4. **Trailer** This is best for small operations, less than 10 animals.

5. **Give-away** Best for small operations near urban areas. Location and advertising are critical for success.
Proper Storage

Any waste that must be stored for an interim period prior to removal or collection should be handled in a responsible manner. If it is kept at ground level rather than in containment bins, a concrete floor and retaining half wall should be constructed that accomplishes two key objectives: 1) prevents seepage, and 2) provides a backdrop and solid surface for easy removal with a tractor or

What do I do with...Animal Manure, Excrement

Animal and pet feces (poop) or manure.

Restrictions, regulations and other information

You may place small amounts of animal “poop” in your own garbage can or public garbage cans as long as the waste is securely bagged in plastic or wrapped in a closed, leak-proof bag or container. Animal waste deposited in a public or residential garbage can must not make up more than 10% of the total volume of the can.

Composting or burying household pet wastes is not recommended because home composting and burial will not effectively destroy pathogens such as Salmonella, E-Coli and Giardia or parasitic worms such as roundworms and hookworms in dog or cat feces. Both roundworm and hookworm eggs survive in the soil for years and both people and pets could become infected from contact with contaminated soils. There are also environmental concerns with water contamination that can be associated to improperly composted or contaminated pet wastes.

Pet wastes that do not contain litter, bedding or other debris may be flushed if you have a sewer connection and your local sewer system allows it. It is not recommended to dispose of pet waste into a septic system.

Some types of livestock waste make excellent soil additives or compost - see manure management

Most pet waste is not acceptable for composting.

If you have animal waste that is not acceptable for composting and cannot be disposed of in your own garbage can, it may be disposed at a King County solid waste facility with an approved waste clearance decision. King County solid waste facilities do not accept animal waste from kennels or other businesses. Businesses must dispose this waste into a sanitary sewerage system or an on-site treatment system. For more information, contact your local sewerage agency. View King County’s complete waste acceptance rule.

We are sorry, but there are currently no recycling options for this material. Please visit the King County transfer stations website for disposal options.

Does your business accept this material?

If your business accepts these materials for recycling or resale and would like to be added to the What Do I Do With…? website, please visit our Partners page.

In King County:

King County Solid Waste: Waste Acceptance Rule

Waste Clearance Web Page
http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/facilities/wasteclearance.asp

Waste Clearance Policies:

Waste Clearance Application:

Waste Characterization Form:

What do I do with...Animal Manure, Excrement, Dead Animals
http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/wherecani.asp?CatID=10
(select Business or Residence)
Composting/Topsoil Facilities

Here are some hauling services you can contact. Please contact them to confirm or deny the status of their manure collection service options.

**Cedar Grove Compost**
http://cedar-grove.com/residential/recycle-your-organic-waste/
http://cedar-grove.com/residential/containers/
Contact our Consultants at 877-994-4466 for a quote or e-mail greenscene@cgcompost.com

**DeJong Sawdust and Shavings**
11807 Avondale Road NE, Redmond, WA 98052
SawdustQueen@deJongss.com
425-885-1821, 425-883-0821

**Pacific Topsoils**
1733 127th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA
http://pacifictopsoils.com/recycle.html#materials
sales@pacifictopsoils.com
1-800-884-SOIL (7645), 425-337-2700

**JIT Farm Services, Inc.**
Ask for Bill
PO Box 117, Carnation, WA 98014, 425-623-5925
https://www.facebook.com/pages/JIT-Farm-Services/727049543980610
rankotto@hotmail.com

**Ben Howard Supply**
14911 Chain Lake Road Monroe, WA 98272, 425-423-8200
20630 Ben Howard Rd, Monroe, Washington 98272, 360-863-1188

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Waste Disposal

**Where to?**
- Compost for your own use, while meeting composting regulations
- Give away or sell to gardeners/ nurseries as compostable materials
- Transport to nurseries, topsoil companies or composting centers (consult phone book yellow pages, vast majority are receptive)
- Locate dairy/cattle farms for “#2 shavings” use

**How?**
The most practical/ cost effective method for hauling waste materials off your site will vary depending on resources available to you and the amount of material your animals are generating. Options include:
- Dump truck
- Dump trailer (pulled by truck)
- Waste hauler’s container
- End user’s pick-up

**Helpful Web Sites**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KCD Manure Match</th>
<th><a href="http://www.kingcd.org/programs-farm-manure.htm">http://www.kingcd.org/programs-farm-manure.htm</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seattle Tilth’s Compost</td>
<td><a href="http://www.seattletilth.org/learn/resources-1/compost">http://www.seattletilth.org/learn/resources-1/compost</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU Extension Gardening in Washington State</td>
<td><a href="http://gardening.wsu.edu">http://gardening.wsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WSU Compost</td>
<td><a href="http://csanr.wsu.edu/compost/">http://csanr.wsu.edu/compost/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU Soils &amp; Compost</td>
<td><a href="http://smallfarms.wsu.edu/soils-compost/">http://smallfarms.wsu.edu/soils-compost/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU Extension Clopyralid in Compost</td>
<td><a href="http://puyallup.wsu.edu/soils/clopyralid/">http://puyallup.wsu.edu/soils/clopyralid/</a></td>
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shovel. To prevent runoff the containment area should be covered. This can be accomplished through the use of plastic sheeting or by building a cover or roof. For more information about Waste Storage Facilities, please visit the [KCD web site section on Waste Management](http://kingcd.org/pub_was.htm).