

REAL
Aug. 8, 2011

News Release

Prevent Poo-lution Learn How to Make a Dog Waste Digester

SMITHS FALLS, ON -- Poop and scoop laws and conscientious dog owners have certainly gone a long way to cleaning up our parks and public areas of dog waste. But private yards are often a frustrating problem for dog owners.

One option for dog owners is to build a dog waste digester in their backyards. This is simply a hole, lined with an old garbage bin or bucket, with a removable lid, that the dog waste is deposited into. Bacteria starter is added to speed the digesting process.

REAL is presenting a free Prevent Poo-lution, How to Make a Dog Waste Digester workshop on Sat., Aug, 13 at its site at the REAL Deal Reuse Store.

Pet waste is a bigger concern for our community. When rains fall and snow melts, the running water carries the waste into urban storm sewers. Not all these sewers go to the wastewater treatment plant, so some of the pet waste is carried directly into the Rideau River.

Urban run-off from our roads, sidewalks and driveways carries pet waste, car wash residue, vehicle liquids, pesticides and fertilizers, salts, etc. and is now considered to be the single largest source of pollution to surface waters.

This workshop is part of REAL's new RAIN program that addresses urban run-off in Smiths Falls. For more information see slowrain.ca

The workshop will start at 10 a.m. and conclude by 11:30. While an RSVP is welcome – send an email to mmckenna@realdealstore.ca or call 613-283-9500 – interested participants are welcome to just show up. Dog owners who build a waste digester and send us a picture will be eligible for a gift certificate courtesy of Pet Value.

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