

FAQs

How do I properly dispose of dog poop?

Throw it in the trash, flush it down the toilet (not in the bag), or bury it. All three protect streams and waterways from fecal pollution.

Why should I be concerned about dog poop?

Everyone wants the water they drink, swim in or fish in to be clean. Bacteria called fecal coliform are found in wastes including pet poop and are indicators that other bacteria and viruses that cause health issues could be present. Dog poop, if left on the ground, can be a source of bacterial pollution and nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus that can contribute to severe algal blooms. Algae blooms caused by excess nutrients can decrease oxygen levels that stresses fish and other aquatic life.



How does dog poop affect human health?

Ingesting or coming into contact with water contaminated with certain bacteria from animal wastes can make people ill, causing some diseases. The feces also can contain hookworms, roundworms and other parasites that can be spread to adults and children walking barefoot or playing in the grass near dog waste.

Can I put dog poop down the storm drain?

No! Storm drains in our community are directly connected to local waterways with no treatment in between. Ultimately, anything dumped into storm drains or left on the ground in urban areas usually winds up in a storm sewer system that discharges directly into our local streams and lakes.

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The Scoop on Dog Poop

So what's the harm in a little poop left behind every once in a while? Turns out to be a bigger problem than most people think.

It is estimated that one ounce of dog feces contains 23 million harmful bacteria, nearly twice that of human waste or 10 times that of a cow!

Urban areas typically have relatively high populations of dogs that could contribute



unnaturally high levels of bacteria to waterways. When it rains the feces wash off the landscape and into the nearest storm drain that discharges to a neighborhood stream, river, lake, or pond.

Prevent pollution. Plan for pet accidents. Grab a bag or two before taking your dog for a walk.

**Streets to Streams,
No Treatment in Between**



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