



# PET WASTE CLEANUP TOOLKIT

## Dogs produce more than 13 million pounds of poop every year in Frederick County!

Sure, we love our dogs- they are part of our family! But they can't pick up after themselves, so it's our job to dispose of the waste they leave behind. If we don't, people, plants, waterways, and wildlife can all be harmed.



Check out our Scoop the Poop video!  
Visit [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/PetWaste](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/PetWaste)

## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO SCOOP THAT POOP



**There are 23 MILLION fecal bacteria in one gram of pet waste!** That can cause serious illness in humans and animals.



**Dog waste is not a fertilizer.** Its acidity can burn your grass. Mowing over pet waste will spread bacteria and parasites all over your yard.



**Dog waste is raw sewage that can attract rodents and insects,** smells bad, and can easily be tracked indoors.



When rain or snow wash pet waste into waterways, **it pollutes the water we use for drinking, recreation, and agriculture.**



Wild animals naturally recycle the nutrients around them. **Pets introduce nutrients and pathogens not part of the habitat** and their waste breaks down more slowly.



The excess nutrients in pet waste can cause algae blooms and weed growth. **That lowers water quality and harms fish and aquatic habitats.**





# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO **STOP POO-LUTION**

Please do your part to keep Frederick County's communities and waterways clean and healthy. Every small action helps!



**SCOOP IT**



**BAG IT**



**TRASH IT!**

Tag us on social media so  
we can support your  
neighborhood's efforts!






Tag @SustainableFCMD so we can  
join the community conversation!

Visit our website to download free  
social media graphics to share!

Visit Our Website



## HELPFUL TIPS

-  Keep pet waste bags in your car and tie them to your leash when traveling with your pet.
-  Use pet waste stations in your local parks and neighborhoods.
-  Never leave bagged pet waste on the ground or toss it down a storm drain. Storm drains lead directly to our local waterways.
-  Do not put dog or cat waste in a compost bin. Parasites such as roundworms, hookworms, and harmful bacteria and viruses can be transferred to you and your garden.
-  Pick up pet waste in your yard during dry weather, before the next rainfall. That reduces the amount of bacteria and excess nutrients washing into our local waterways.

If you would like to have our staff visit your community to provide pet waste outreach information, please contact our office at [Sustainability@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:Sustainability@FrederickCountyMD.gov).



This is a publication of the Frederick County Division of Energy and Environment. Join our community conversation about sustainability issues and environmental health!



@SustainableFCMD

For additional fact sheets or other publications: [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DEEdocs](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DEEdocs)

Email: [sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov) Call: 301.600.1416