



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

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.



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



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.



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.



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



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.



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
Email: sustainability@frederickcountymd.gov Call: 301.600.1416