

Let's Talk About Poop



Let's Talk

We pet owners love our animals! We care for them daily by providing food, water, treats, and lots of play time. We treat them like family!

Many of us have a daily regimen of walking our dogs near our homes and at our local parks, or letting our cats outside to roll in the grass or to chase birds.

It's crucial that we manage pet waste with the same amount of care. Pet waste can make humans and other pets sick when it enters the environment, especially through storm water runoff.

Pet Waste

Pet waste left on the ground, especially near streets and sidewalks, gets washed into storm drains and drainage ditches during rain and snow melt and flows to your local waterway...without being treated!

Bacteria, parasites, and viruses found in pet waste can be harmful to water quality and human health.

Common Pet Waste Bacteria & Parasites

Cryptosporidium Oocyst - Cryptosporidium from dogs and cats do not readily infect humans with the exception of immunosuppressed individuals, in which the infection can be life-threatening. They are nearly indestructible in the environment.

E. Coli - which normally resides in the lower intestines of most warm blooded mammals, including dogs. Normally, the presence of E. coli is benign, and even beneficial, but in some cases it can cause a diseased condition, especially in newborn puppies.

Giardia - a single celled parasite that lives in your dogs intestines dog giardia is not considered to spread from animals to humans, but can spread from dog to dog.

Roundworm - infect children more than adults. They are infected inadvertently consuming worm eggs in soil, typically by getting dirty fingers in their mouths.

Monthly deworming will also help reduce environmental contamination.

Salmonella - Rare in adult dogs, with exception to those fed a raw diet. Salmonella organisms are very difficult to remove from the environment and easily survive 3 months in soil.

Tapeworm - are significant public health problems. Humans can acquire the disease by ingesting eggs passed in the feces of dogs.

Toxoplasma Gondii - parasite transmitted to humans by consumption of insufficiently cooked meat, soil or exposure to organisms in cat feces.

Scoop the Poop

Not only is picking up after your pet the neighborly thing to do, it's a healthy thing to do, for you and the environment!

- Always carry pet waste baggies while taking your dog for a walk.
- Clean up after your cat if it chooses the outside as it's litter box.
- Properly dispose of pet waste in a trash receptacle.
- Always provide clean, fresh water for your pet to avoid the transfer of bacteria, parasites, and viruses.



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