Tips

Picking up pet waste is no one's favorite job. Hopefully the tips below will make the job a little less icky.

- You can turn pet waste collection baggies inside out over your hand to use the bag as a glove when picking up the waste.
- Many pet owners prefer to double bag the collected pet waste.
- After collection, you can tie the baggies onto the leash so that you do not have to hold or put the full baggie in your pocket.
- Long handled pet waste scoopers are available at pet stores to assist with waste collection.
- Although you can purchase baggies specifically for pet waste at pet stores, you can also re-use other bags including newspaper bags, bread bags, or sandwich baggies.
- Pet waste digesters are available for purchase at pet stores.

Attachment 3

Additional Information

For more information, contact the Naval Base Kitsap Stormwater Manager at (360) 315-1992 for Keyport, Jackson Park, Bangor or the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Stormwater Manager at (360) 257-5631. Residents please review pet waste management in you Community Handbook or contact your Neighborhood Management Office. Additional information is available at:

EPA Pet Waste Management:
https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/files/Pet%20Care%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf

Washington Department of Ecology: https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-involved/What-you-can-do/Washington-Waters-ours-to-protect/Manage-animal-manure

Kitsap County Stormwater Management:
https://www.kitsapgov.com/how-do-i/apply-for/pet-waste-bag-station

Water Environment Federation Pet Waste Management (under Too Cute to Pollute?):
www.wef.org/resources/for-the-public/public-information/fact-sheets/

Pet waste is a health risk to people, other pets, and the environment. Bacteria in pet waste can make people sick. When not disposed of properly, pet waste is washed into storm drains and ends up in our local waterways.

Always bag the pet waste and dispose of it properly.

May 2020

NAVFAC Naval Facilities Engineering Command

WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM

Preventing Pollution from Pet Waste

Navy Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program
We All Live Downstream

The Problem

Pet waste is not only smelly and unsightly, but also is a health risk to pets, people, and our local water bodies.

You may think that pet waste left on a lawn or sidewalk fertilizes the soil. However, in most cases the waste is washed into storm drains that lead directly into nearby waterways **without** being treated first.

The problem is that pet waste contains harmful bacteria such as E. coli and fecal coliform, and parasites. This can make the water unfit for recreation such as swimming, fishing, or tubing and can spread gastrointestinal illnesses in humans such as Giardia and Salmonella.

These pollutants are harmful to the thousands of species of plants and animals (including fish, crabs and shellfish, birds, grasses, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians). **People who eat food from contaminated water can get very sick.**

Additionally, pet waste decays very slowly and the pollutants in pet waste can travel several miles in the water, contaminating the water as it travels.

The Facts

Some of the harmful effects of pet waste include:

- When pet waste decays, it uses up dissolved oxygen and releases compounds that are harmful to fish, shellfish and other aquatic life.
- Each dog produces approximately 0.42 pounds of fecal waste per day, or about 150 pounds per year. Just think how much waste is produced by the pets in your neighborhood!
- A *single gram* of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria that can cause disease in humans.
- A single day's waste from one large dog can contain 7.8 billion fecal coliform bacteria - **enough to close 15 acres of shellfish beds.**
- EPA estimates that 2 to 3 days of pet waste from a population of 100 dogs would contribute enough bacteria and nutrients to temporarily **close** an entire bay for swimming and shellfishing. *Source: EPA 1993*

The Solution

Be responsible and clean up after your pets. It is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. Bring a bag.

2. Use the bag to pick up the pet waste.

3. Dispose of the bag properly in the trash...

and not down the storm drain!