



# The Scoop on Dog Poop

## Don't be a Poopertraitor!

Poop on the ground doesn't just disappear into the air! Rainwater washes it into our streams and eventually into our coastal bays and ocean!

- Pet feces, otherwise known as poop, often carry bacteria such as E. coli, viruses and parasites into waterways. Side effects for unsuspecting swimmers in contaminated waters can include unpleasant infections like giardia, diarrhea, hives and rashes. Poop is also nutrient rich, which can stimulate algal blooms, dead zones, and ultimately kill marine life.

- A single gram of dog poop can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria - nearly twice as much as human waste!

- Scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey estimate that pet waste contributes between 20 to 30 percent of the water pollution in America!



### Pick Up Your Dog Poop!

Join MCBP battle against poopetrators and pick up after your dog! It's easy, it's neighborly, and it's the healthy thing to do for our coastal bays!

### Pick Up Your Dog Poop!

Dog waste is one of the easiest pollutants in our water ways to prevent!

Take the following actions to help protect the bays:

#### Pick up after your pet

Flushing pet waste down the toilet is best, because then it is treated at a sewage treatment plant.



#### Bag your dog's waste

And put it in a trash can if flushing down a toilet is not feasible. Newspaper bags or plastic grocery bags are great for dog poop disposal. Bag dispensers that clip to a leash also are widely available at pet supply shops.

#### Never put waste into storm drains

They flow right into the coastal bays.



#### Spread the word

About the harmful impacts of dog poop on our waters to your friends and neighbors, and encourage them to make their furry pal a friend of the environment by picking up after their pet.



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# Engaging the public with the scoop on poop



MCBP volunteers and staffers had more fun with their scoop on poop float at last year's Berlin Christmas Parade. Not only did the float and volunteer antics receive a lot of attention—something about a large poo running away from some hazematt suits with bags – they won second place!