

# Scoop the Poop & Don't Poo-lute!

## Protect Our Waterways!



There are almost 90 million dogs in the U.S. who collectively produce around 11 million tons of dog waste per year! That's a lot of dog poop, but what exactly does that have to do with protecting our waterways? When it rains, dog fecal matter is picked up and carried into our local waterways, infiltrating our drinking and swimming water. Since stormwater is not treated or cleaned before it enters our creeks and rivers, dog fecal matter is a **major** contributor to stormwater pollution!

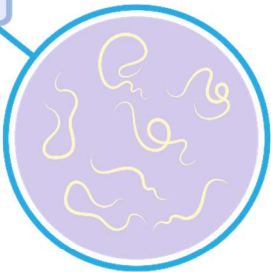


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### DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 gram of dog poop contains on average 23 million fecal coliform bacteria
- 95% of fecal coliform found in urban stormwater was of nonhuman origin



The EPA classifies dog waste as a dangerous non-point pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oils.

Nitrogen and phosphorus in dog waste promotes excessive algae and weed growth, which can choke out aquatic life and make the water unsuitable for drinking and swimming. In addition to excessive plant growth, disease-causing worms, bacteria, and viruses thrive in waste, washing into the water supply, and potentially harming you or your family.



### It's the law!

Chapter 5, Article 8, Division 3, Sec. 5-111 states failure to remove animal waste can result in a fine between \$50 up to \$2,500

It is a dog owner's "doo-ty" to clean up after their pet and those actions set an example for others. Be a part of the solution, not the problem.

Aside from dog aggression, incessant barking, or unsupervised dogs, most complaints against them are about people not cleaning up after them. That is not the dog's fault!

Dog waste is a pollutant, **NOT** a fertilizer!

In fact, it does just the opposite and can be very toxic to your soil. Due to their diet, dog waste is highly acidic and will burn your grass creating brown patches.

**YOUR DOG DID THEIR "DOO-TY"  
PLEASE DO YOURS**

**What you can do:  
Scoop It, Bag It, & Trash It!**

1. Bring your own baggies.
2. Clean up after your dog.
3. Properly dispose of waste in trash.



**Michiana  
Stormwater  
Partnership**