

## Quick Tips

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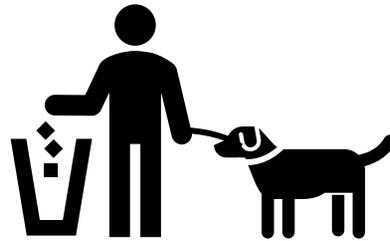
- Reuse old bags (e.g. grocery, sandwich, newspaper, produce, or bread bags) to pick up and contain pet waste.
- Keep a supply of bags near your dog's leash.
- Tie bags onto the leash if you don't have a pocket or pack.

## Do I Have To?

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**YES!**

Title 6 of Revere's Code of Ordinances requires that the owner, keeper, or person otherwise in control of a dog shall immediately pick up and properly dispose of any feces left by such dog on any street, sidewalk, or other public area, or on any private property that is not owned or occupied by such person.



Managing dog waste properly is something easy that everyone can do to make a difference in the quality of our surface waters.



## DOG WASTE AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY

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## Did You Know?

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Every dog produces about  $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds of solid waste and over 7 billion bacteria daily!

**City of Revere Engineering Department**



Rainfall and snowmelt in the City of Revere goes untreated into our stormwater system, then directly into local streams, ponds, rivers lakes, and beaches.

As it flows, stormwater picks up contaminants and pollutants in its path.

That's why it's important to make sure that dog waste and its pollutants do not end up in the storm drains.

When pet waste is left on the ground or put into storm drains, rain or snow melt carried the bacteria into our surface water.

Pet waste should be disposed of only in proper waste receptacles, not storm drains.

## What's So Bad About Dog Waste?

Dog waste left in our yards, forest areas, beaches and parks can have many adverse effects on the environment.

Bacteria and other parasites found in pet waste, such as Giardia and cryptosporidium, can survive for long periods when left on the ground. Besides being a neighborhood nuisance, dog waste can make people sick, especially children who are more likely to come into contact with it while playing.

Dog waste left on lawns can also kill or damage grass and other plants.

When dog waste is washed into lakes or streams, the waste decays, uses up oxygen in the water, and sometimes releases ammonia. This can kill fish!

Dog waste also contains nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth.

Too much of these nutrients turn water cloudy and green . . . imagine this in your backyard pond or stream!

## How You Can Help

Individual actions can result in significant water quality improvements when carried out by many people.

Unlike some forms of stormwater pollutants, individual people can easily and economically manage dog waste and help keep our waters safe and aesthetically pleasing.



**BRING IT** – Always bring a plastic bag when you walk your dog.

**BAG IT** – Use the bag as a glove to pick up the dog waste. Scoop it up and turn the bag inside out around the waste.

**DISPOSE IT** – Properly dispose of dog waste by putting it in a trash can. **Never throw dog waste down a storm drain!**

### AND REMEMBER

- Pick up after your pet in your yard
- Only bring your dog where dogs are allowed