



WHY WE SHOULD SCOOP THE POOP

We talk about this topic a lot in I'On, and I'm guessing in every other community locally and around the nation. But why does it matter so much? Succinctly stated, pet waste is a health risk to both people and pets, and it adversely affects our water quality.

Need more reasons to scoop the poop: <https://doggydogood.com/blogs/dog-blog/4-reasons-picking-up-after-your-dog-is-more-important-than-you-think>

1. It takes up to 12 months for it break down. Meanwhile, rainwater carries it into our drainage systems and eventually into lakes, creeks, etc. As much as 30% of bacteria found in watersheds comes from pet waste, according to studies.
2. Diseases such as COVID, Giardiasis, Parvovirus, Cryptosporidiosis, Salmonellosis, and Campylobacteriosis can be carried in pet waste, in addition to parasites like ringworm and tapeworm.
3. Pet feces also contains pathogens and nutrients that can pollute the water and cause severe illness for humans.
4. Dog poop is NOT a fertilizer, like cow manure, because cows eat plant matter. In fact, dog waste can contaminate fruits, vegetables, and other plants.
5. Picking up poop is our responsibility, as pet owners and good neighbors.

Fortunately, Our HOA has made it easy by placing poop stations in many convenient locations around the 'hood. These include a can for disposal and a box of new bags for you to take. To go one step further, having poop bags with you all the time on your dog walks will make sure that you're prepared, even when your pet "makes her deposit" where a poop station is not nearby. Many people save the plastic sleeves from daily newspaper deliveries for this purpose. However, plastic bags have a devastating impact on our wildlife and ecosystem. Better to use compostable (more environmentally friendly than just "biodegradable") bags. There are many such bags available online and at retail outlets, made just for this purpose. You can even get refillable holders that conveniently clip to the dog's leash.

Hopefully, you are now convinced that scooping the poop is important, and that it's worth the trouble to do it! Your neighbors thank you!

*I'On Eco Group – preserving I'On's beauty through sound environmental practices.
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