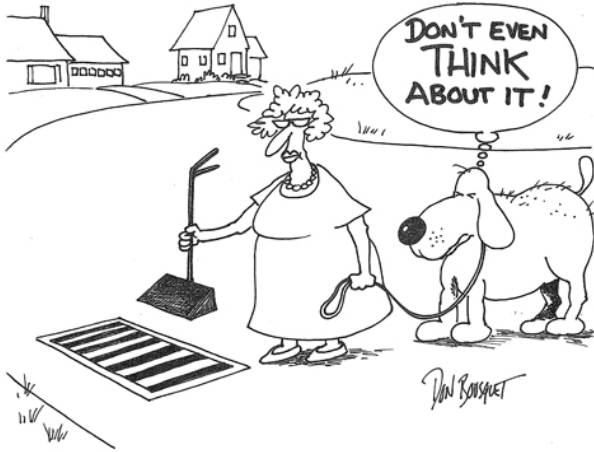


# Do Your Doody Duty: **Bag it and Trash it!**

*Managing dog waste properly is an easy and impactful way to make a difference in the quality of our health and environment.*



There are over 2600 licensed dogs in Sudbury. These dogs generate nearly 2,000 pounds of solid waste PER DAY! That's over 7 billion bacteria (twice as much as human waste) on Sudbury soil daily!

Yes, dogs produce a lot of waste, which if not disposed of properly, can end up in our waterways. Pet waste left on lawns and in public spaces is not only gross, but it is full of harmful bacteria and excess nutrients. Dog waste left in our yards, forest areas and parks can have many adverse effects on health and the environment.

## Impacts to our Health and the Environment

- People who come in contact with pet waste and contaminated water can get sick.
- Bacteria and other parasites found in pet waste, such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium, can survive for long periods when left on the ground and make people and animals sick.
- Pet waste in waterways can cause algae to grow and fish to die off.
- If left in your yard, pet waste can kill grass and other plants.

## The Stormwater Connection

Rainfall and snowmelt goes untreated into our stormwater system, then directly into local streams, ponds, rivers and lakes. As it flows, stormwater picks up contaminants and pollutants (including pet waste) in its path. When pet waste washes into storm drains and waterways, it pollutes the water, making it unhealthy for people and wildlife. That's why it's important to make sure that dog waste and its pollutants do not end up in the storm drains, streams, and wetlands.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Do your part to keep our waters, your lawn, and public areas clean and healthy!

- **Clean up after your pet in both public areas and your yard.**
- **Bag your pet's waste and throw it in a trash can (never in a storm drain).**
- **Only bring your dog where dogs are allowed.**



***Individual actions can make a difference! Unlike some forms of stormwater pollution, dog waste can be easily and economically managed. Help keep our waters safe: Please Scoop the Poop!***

To learn more, visit [www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org](http://www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org)

