

It's not pretty. It's not nice.
But it's YOUR responsibility to do the right thing.

## WHY SCOOP THE POOP?

Everyone knows they *should* pick up their pet's waste, but many people still leave it behind. Here's some inside scoop on why scooping the poop is so important.

**It's quick.** A lot quicker than scraping off the bottom of your shoe or cleaning your carpet!

No one likes to step in dog poop. It is not worth the mess!

**Dog poop is bad for the environment.** It gets washed into our water system with rain and can be harmful to aquatic life.

It's the law. Allowing animals to defecate on public or private property is a class 3 misdemeanor and a fineable offense in a court of law.

## NO SCOOP OFFENDERS

If you see a scoop offender with one of the following mindsets, let them know why they need to scoop the poop!

Lazy and irresponsible. They don't care about their Downtown community.

**Believe that dog poop is natural.** It's not! It is very toxic. See below for more information

**Don't want to spend money on waste bags.** DNC has lots of FREE bags available all over Downtown!

Can't find a trashcan. Come on, Downtown has over 150 trashcans.

No one is around to see, so it's OK. We are looking for you. Don't end up on our Downtown Walk of Shame.

**DNC makes it easy!** There are 23 trashcans throughout Downtown equipped with boxes of complimentary dog bags. Just look for the yellow box on the front of the can.

DNC also offers FREE leash bags, just contact us for yours or ask one of our Ambassadors.

## THE FACTS AND DANGERS OF DOG POOP

In most urban areas there are 125 dogs per square mile. Our natural ecosystem can handle two dogs per square mile.

Dog poop is NOT good fertilizer. It is toxic to lawns and can burn and discolor grass. A dog's digestive system will produce more bacteria in one day than a person, horse and cow combined.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classifies pet waste as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oil.

Pet feces can be catastrophic to local water, contaminating nearby ponds, lakes, rivers and drinking water. It is third on the list of contributors to contaminated water.

The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirms pet waste can spread parasites including hookworms, ringworms, tapeworms and salmonella. When infected dog poop comes into contact with your lawn, the poop will eventually "disappear," but the parasite eggs can linger for years! When a human or animal comes into contact with that soil through everyday activities like walking barefoot, gardening or playing, they risk infection from those eggs, even years after the poop is gone.

Pet waste can contain E. Coli and other harmful bacteria including fecal coliform bacteria, which causes serious kidney disorders, intestinal illness, cramps and diarrhea in humans. There are 23 million fecal coliform bacteria in a single gram of pet waste.

Dog poop can contain roundworm larvae, which cause blindness. If a human ingests a roundworm larva, it can migrate through the body, causing disease to the brain, lungs, kidney, heart or eyes. So when people (especially children) touch soil, dog toys or anything that has been in contact with pet waste and then touch their mouths, they can become infected.

Dog feces is a protein by-product that attracts rats. They eat the undigested protein found in dog's fecal matter. More poop, more rats.

