

What You Should Do

- Always clean up after your pet and dispose of the waste in the trash, in a sealed or tied plastic bag. Commercial “scoopers” can also be purchased to make proper disposal even easier. Some are disposable and come with biodegradable, sealable bags. Check pet stores and catalogs.
- Encourage your neighbor and other pet owners to be responsible; it’s not hard, and it’s an important part of the responsibility you have owning a pet. In fact, it is *unlawful* to leave your pet’s waste anywhere outside of the owner’s real property limits. (City of Valparaiso Unified Development Ordinance §91.11)

What You Should NOT Do

- Don’t dispose of pet waste in a catch basin, storm drain, or on the street.
- Don’t use pet waste as a fertilizer. The bacteria in pet waste does far more harm than good.
- Don’t add pet waste to a compost pile. The pile will not get hot enough to kill the disease-causing organisms.

**Be Part of the Solution.
Stop Stormwater Pollution.
Clean Water Starts with You!**

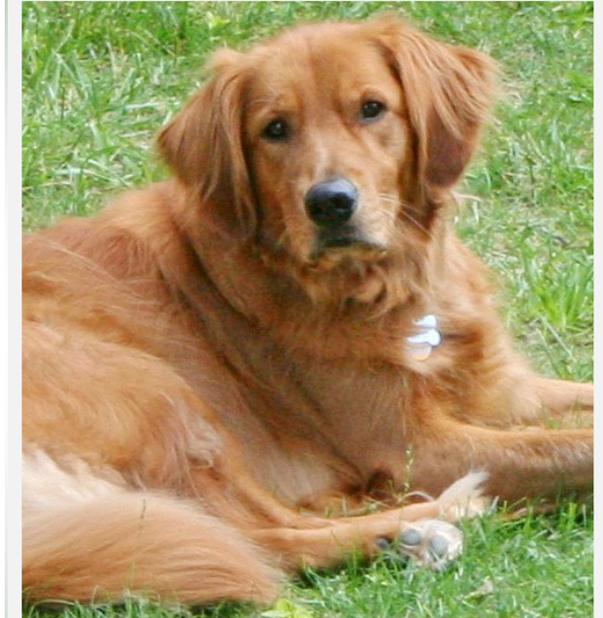
Did You Know

- According to the 2011-2012 National Pet Owners Survey released by American Pet Products Association, there are 78.2 million owned dogs in the U.S., which could produce 10.6 million tons of waste per year—that’s enough to cover 36,805 football fields with a foot of dog waste!
- According to the U.S. EPA, polluted stormwater runoff is a leading cause of impairment to nearly 40 percent of surveyed U.S. water bodies which do not meet water quality standards.

The Problem of Pet Waste

- Pet waste is an environmental pollutant.
- Pet waste contributes to bacterial contamination of our rivers, lakes and streams. It contains harmful bacteria such as E. Coli and fecal coliform. Waters that contain a high amount of bacteria such as E. Coli are unfit for human contact. A single gram of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria, some of which can cause disease in humans.
- Pet waste decays, using up dissolved oxygen and releasing compounds that are harmful to fish and other animals that rely on water.
- Pet waste contains nutrients that can cause excessive algae growth in a river or lake, upsetting the natural balance.

Scoop the Poop Pet Waste Management Campaign



MS4 Stormwater Program

City of Valparaiso

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Spring has sprung...

Cleaning up pet waste is good for your health and the environment

...in Valparaiso

- Know what's grosser than picking up dog poop?
 - **Stepping in it.**
- Know what's even grosser than that?
 - **Swimming in and fishing from water that has pet waste in it, and using the water as a drinking water supply!**
- Picking up after your pet is both a neighborly and healthy thing to do, for you and the environment!

Dog Waste Bag Dispensers

The City of Valparaiso MS4 Stormwater Quality Program is announcing the "Scoop the Poop" pet waste management campaign.

Free dog waste bag dispensers are available to pet owners who live within the City of Valparaiso limits and pay stormwater fees, while supplies last.

These re-fillable dispensers attach to pet's leash and carry 15 biodegradable baggies for convenience in picking up pet's waste and disposing it in the trash.

The dispenser is limited to one per pet owner. Refill bags are available at most pet supply stores.

Visit City's MS4 Program website at www.valpo.us/MS4 or send an email to MS4@valpo.us to check where you can get a dispenser.



Get Yours Today!

Dog Waste Stations

Valpo Parks Department together with Vale Park Animal Hospital has installed pet waste stations at several locations in city, including Fairgrounds Park, Central Park and the Cumberland Loop. Take advantage of the stations when you are walking your dogs in these areas!



For more information on pet waste management and a free dog waste bag dispenser, please contact Mingyan Zhou, MS4 Operator at 219-462-1161, email at MS4@valpo.us, or visit MS4 Program website www.valpo.us/MS4.



Good boy!
He's doing the right thing to keep our water clean!