



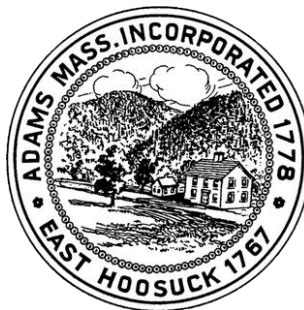
What's the problem with dog waste?

- ❗ Dog waste left in our yards, forest areas, and parks can have many adverse effects on the environment.
- ❗ It's full of harmful bacteria and excess nutrients.
- ❗ 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 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!

Did you know?

There are 937 licensed dogs in Adams!

Each of these dogs produces about $\frac{3}{4}$ pound of solid waste and over 2 billion bacteria daily!

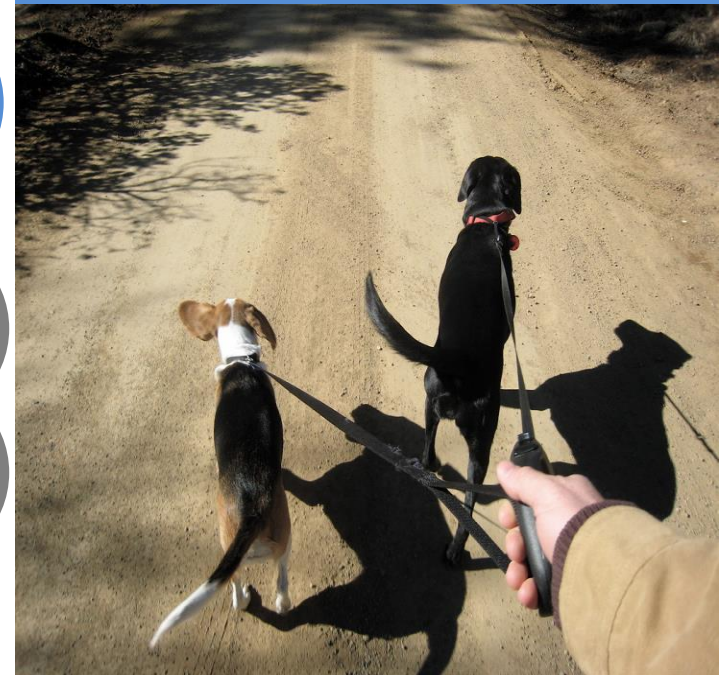


This brochure is derived from information provided by the Massachusetts Departments of Conservation and Recreation and Environmental Protection

YOU

+

Your Dog



The Impact on Surface Water Quality

***Town of Adams
Stormwater Management***



How does dog waste affect storm water?

- ❗ Bacteria and other parasites found in pet waste such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium can survive for long periods when left on the ground.
- ❗ During a rain storm, these pollutants can be washed into local rivers and ponds and into local drinking water supplies.

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



What is Stormwater Pollution?

- ❗ Rainfall and snowmelt in the Town of Adams goes untreated into our stormwater systems, then directly into local streams, ponds, and rivers.
- ❗ As it flows, storm water picks up contaminants and pollutants in its path – such as dog waste.
- ❗ Individual actions can result in significant water quality improvements when carried out by many people.



Until they can take care of *their own* business, it's *our* business to manage it!



How Can I Help?

- ❗ **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 and turn the bag inside out around the waste.
- ❗ **Dispose It** – Always dispose of dog waste properly by putting it in a trash can. Never throw dog waste down a storm drain or leave it along a sidewalk or trail.

Remember



Only bring your dog where dogs are allowed!