

# D.O.G. Dog Outreach Group



We are Girl Scouts, Priya Cooper & Lilly Pulaski, and we are partnering with our town government to raise awareness about dog waste in our community.

# When your dog goes #2, it's on you to pick up the poo!

### DID YOU KNOW?

One gram of dog waste can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria.

One pile of dog poop can take one year or more to fully break down.

Dog poop is not a good fertilizer. It is actually toxic to your lawn, causing burns and unsightly discoloring.

The EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) classified dog waste as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oils.

Dog waste is cited as the 3rd or 4th largest contributor of bacterial water pollution.

# Why is Dog Waste a Problem in Swampscott?

#### Your Health

Leaving dog waste on the ground may pose a risk to children and adults who can be exposed to it by stepping in it on our athletic fields and parks.

#### Your Water

Pet waste carries multiple diseases causing organisms such as Giardia and Salmonella, which can make water unsafe for drinking or swimming.

#### Your Community

Since Swampscott is an oceanside community, it is concerning that undisposed of dog waste can wash into our oceans that we swim in. Beaches can be shut down due to bacterial contamination.



## What you can do:

You can follow these easy steps to be part of the pet waste solution.

- The first step is to always carry a plastic bag with you when you walk your dog.
  Re-using an old newspaper delivery bag or plastic grocery bag works well.
- 2. Using the bag like a glove, you can then pick up the pet waste, turn the bag inside out around the waste, seal the bag, and dispose of it in a trash can.
- 3. Don't place the bagged or unbagged pet waste in a storm drain or hose the pet waste towards storm drains as they drain directly to a stream, river, lake or other bodies of water.
- 4. Raising awareness and educating our fellow neighbors about this problem will make Swampscott a cleaner community. Will you join us?

Remember, it's not cool to leave your stool!