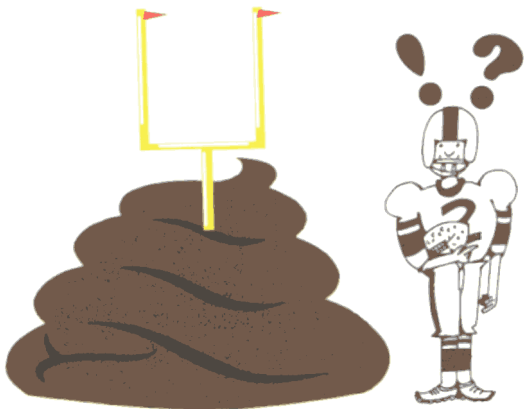


**Did You Know  
There Are An  
Estimated  
53 Million  
Dogs In The United  
States?**

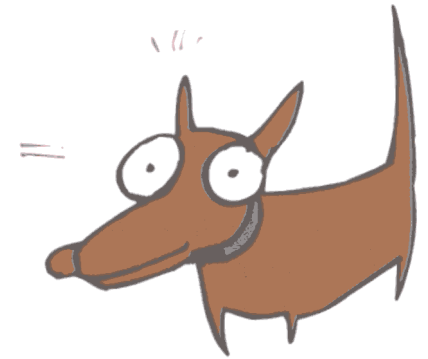
**That's 6.3 Billion  
Pounds Of poop Per  
Year!!**

**It Would Take A  
Scoop The Size Of A  
Football Field And  
800 Feet Tall To  
Dispose Of All That  
poop.**



Gwinnett County  
Department of Public Utilities  
684 Winder Hwy.  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045


**Pick  
It  
Up...**





**It's  
Your  
Doodie!**


# Why Should I Pick It Up?

If pet waste is left on sidewalks, streets, yards or other open areas, it can wash into a river or lake and cause many problems:

 **Poop**, or fecal bacteria, has impaired 127 miles of Gwinnett's streams so that they do not meet the standards set by Georgia's Environmental Protection Division.

 **Poop** decays, using up oxygen and releasing compounds which are harmful to fish and other animals that rely on water.

 **Poop** contains nutrients which can cause excessive algae growth in a water body, upsetting the natural balance.

 Most important of all, **poop** can contain as many as 75 diseases and viruses which may make our water unsafe for fishing, swimming and other types of recreation.

## I want to be a *responsible* pet owner, but does this mean I have to pick up **poop**?



### The bad news is...

Yes, you have to "scoop **poop**," but it's a small price to pay to protect our water quality.

### The good news is...

Whether in your yard at home or out walking your dog, it's easy to do the right thing! You can purchase a device made especially for the task or simply use a plastic bag. Then, you can just place your **poop** in the nearest garbage can or flush it down the toilet. **Remember:** Plastic and paper bags will clog your plumbing!

## Everyone will be happier when you pick up after your pet!



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Department of Public Utilities**  
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