

# The Scoop on Scooping Poop

# Safety

On its most basic level poop is a slipping hazard, most of us have experienced stepping in poop and have disliked the consequences from the moment of the dreaded contact where it is too late to shift weight anymore to avoid a collision. Alternately you may not notice you have stepped in poop until you can "smell" it leading to dirty car mats or other unpleasant situation. Scooping can avoid the dreaded shoe contact issues, but more importantly it can actually prevent diseases. According to the Center for Disease Control: Poop from pets, like dogs and cats, can carry germs like bacteria and parasites that can make people sick. Poop from pets can also contaminate waterways and harm the environment. Dogs can get parasites from dog feces and even extremely serious diseases like Parvo-virus spread through dog-to-dog contact with feces. This contact can include a person stepping in poop and accidentally carrying the virus home to a not yet vaccinated puppy. More importantly, children should never play in yards that have not be scooped for poop. Like puppies, children can be more susceptible to diseases spread by dog poop.

### Etiquette

We recommend that dog lovers scoop poop and deposit it in their own trash cans or public waste cans. Scooped poop bags being deposited in private trash cans have caused conflicts in some communities. It is easy to avoid this type of conflict by making sure poop bags are tightly knotted and placing them only in public or your own trash bins.

#### **Public Relations**

Not everyone loves dogs like we do, consider that you are doing dogs as a whole a service when you clean up after your dog. Every poop that is not scooped is bad PR for all dogs. This can lead to

motels refusing dogs or to apartment complexes even banning dogs. It is easy to avoid these issues if we all make a commitment to scooping poop.

# **Tools for Scooping**

Many people find the task of scooping unpleasant. Using two bags can make the task simpler and dullen the sensation of feeling poop. If scooping in your own yard there are many tools available such as the one pictured here.



#### Sources and Recommended Reading

https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/connect/newsletter/pet-poopsaftey.html#:~:text=Poop%20from%20pets%2C%20like%20dogs,waterways%20and%20harm%20the%20envir onment.

# Thank you for being a stellar dog parent by scooping your dog poop!

#### www.CourteousCanine.com

