



# SCOOP THE POOP



Dogs make wonderful companions, but they also make a lot of poop. Pet waste is a big problem when it's left sitting around. The bacteria and parasites in dog poop can infect children and adults, spread disease between pets, and contaminate our water.

## Every Dog Counts

 **194,000** pet dogs in Bernalillo County

 **0.75** pounds of poop per dog per day

 **53 million pounds of poop** per year in Bernalillo County alone!

## Did you Know?

- Pet waste carries bacteria and possibly parasites, including E. coli, salmonella, giardia, coccidia, roundworms, and hookworms.
- Pet waste on the ground can wash into storm drains and arroyos and contaminate the Rio Grande with nutrients and bacteria.
- Pet waste degrades in the Rio Grande, using up oxygen and harming aquatic life.
- The Rio Grande has an E. coli problem, and dog poop is one of the greatest contributors!





# WHAT YOU CAN DO



- **At Home:** Regularly pick up pet waste in your yard. Bag it and toss it in your curbside trashcan, or flush it down the toilet.
- **Public Spaces:** Always carry poop bags and immediately pick up after your pet. Secure the bag and dispose of it in a trash can. Do not leave it beside the trail.
- **The Bernalillo County Animal Control Ordinance** states that, "... waste left by a dog on any property other than the owner's must be cleaned up by the pet owner. If the law is violated, you could be subject to prosecution."

**As a dog owner, it is your responsibility to pick up after your pet!**



Poop Fairy image & campaign materials provided by Greenville County Soil & Water Conservation District in S.C.. visit [www.poopfairyy.info](http://www.poopfairyy.info).

## For More Information

**Bernalillo County Natural Resource Services**

[www.bernco.gov/stormwater](http://www.bernco.gov/stormwater)  
[www.bernco.gov/pollutionprevention](http://www.bernco.gov/pollutionprevention)

**Middle Rio Grande Stormwater Quality Team**

[www.keeptheriogrand.org](http://www.keeptheriogrand.org)