

Do Your Doody: Sign the “They Drop it, You Drink It” Pledge.

Dog waste left behind in our parks and on our beaches is a nuisance and an eyesore. It can also be bad for the environment and a public health risk! Dog waste may contain bacteria including Fecal Coliform and E. Coli which could contaminate our drinking water.

- By signing the pledge below, you promise to always clean up after your dog. By doing so, YOU are helping to keep Lake Tahoe and the Lake Tahoe Basin, clean and green!

I pledge to always ‘scoop the poop’ and clean up after my dog, even in my own yard.

I pledge to carry extra doggy bags on my daily walks.

I pledge to encourage other dog owners to clean up after their pets.

I pledge to educate others about the “They Drop it, You Drink It” Campaign.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Are you Interested in Adopting a neighborhood Mutt Mitt station?

We could use your help by volunteering to “adopt” a Mutt Mitt station around Lake Tahoe.

Mutt Mitt stations are installed in high dog use areas to provide dog walkers with free doggy waste bags, an educational sign, and a and a small trash can to put the bagged dog waste in.

Volunteers are needed to be responsible for refilling the dispensers with new bags (provided by Tahoe Water Suppliers Association) and making sure the dog waste container is emptied.

If you are interested in adopting a station, or would like to know more, please provide us with your name, phone number, and e-mail address. Thank you.

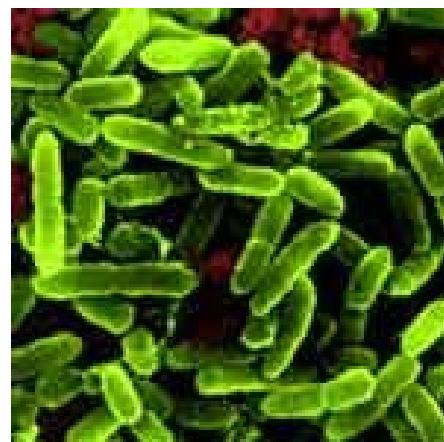
Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ / E-mail: _____

Do you have a neighborhood spot in mind you would like to adopt?

If not, what area would you consider volunteering for? (Example: Tahoe City/ Highlands area)

What is the real scoop on dog poop?



DOG WASTE and its affect on WATER QUALITY

Dog poop; not just an aesthetic issue, but a water quality issue.

At Lake Tahoe and many other areas throughout the United States, people have become concerned about the effects of accumulated dog waste on water quality. Dog waste, like any waste, may contain a variety of microbes, some of which could cause disease. Examples of diseases that can potentially be transmitted from dogs to humans through feces include Salmonella, Giardia, E-Coli and Cryptosporidium.

Tahoe's water providers maintain a rigorous schedule of raw and finished water testing and use state-of-the-art disinfection processes to remove or inactivate pathogenic microbes; keeping your drinking water safe and of the highest quality.

A recent study conducted by scientists at University of Nevada Reno Cooperative Extension found that the desiccation or drying out, of dog feces kills off harmful bacteria that are typically present in feces. The study found that E. Coli almost completely died off after sixty hours in climates with evaporation rates of .08 inches per day, and after fifteen hours for evaporation rates of .30 inches per day. Evaporation rates in the Tahoe area range from almost zero (0) during the cooler, wetter months to .20 inches per day during the dry, hot, summer months.

These findings suggest that the risk of water contamination from dog feces is greatest during the cooler, wetter months when there is increased snowmelt and rainfall, coupled with lower evaporation rates. During these times it is most important to pick up dog waste and dispose of it in the trash can or toilet, to reduce the contamination potential on water quality.

Take the ***“They Drop It, You Drink It”- Clean-Up Pledge*** on the back!

