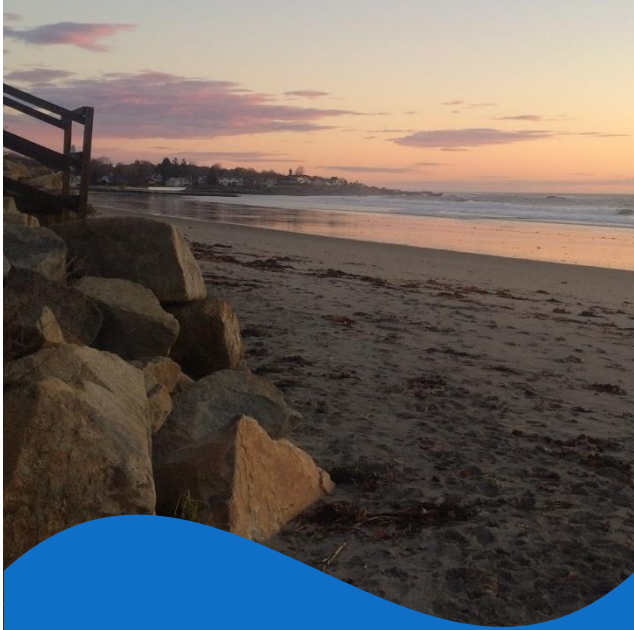


# CITIZEN GUIDE TO RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP



## PROTECT OUR WATERS – SCOOP THE POOP!



## LOCAL REGULATIONS

### Licensing

All dogs living the Town of Rye, including puppies who have received their first rabies shot, must be licensed.

### Dogs on Beaches

#### Ordinance #1

Dogs are prohibited from town beaches from 9am to 7pm beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day and ending the Saturday after Labor Day. Dogs are never permitted at state beaches and parks. The only exception is the area between Wallis Sands State Park and Odiorne State Park where dogs and people are allowed except between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. **Owners are subject to a \$50.00 fine for any violation.** Dog waste on beaches must be picked up immediately by its owner. **Owners are subject to a \$50.00 fine for failure to pick up pet waste on the beach.**

### Litter Ordinance

#### Ordinance #28

Pet waste is now included in the list of items covered by the Litter Control Law and Animal and Waste Removal Ordinance (#28). Potential penalties include a **violation-level summons for littering (\$62 fine)** up to a class B misdemeanor **charge of unlawful activities (up to \$1,000 fine).**

## RESOURCES

### Information on Parsons Creek Restoration

**Kim Reed**, Planning & Zoning Administrator  
10 Central Road  
Rye, NH 03870  
[www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us)

### Information on Ordinances

[www.ryepolice.us/townordinances](http://www.ryepolice.us/townordinances)

[www.town.rye.nh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlif3751/f/uploads/07\\_dog\\_ordinance.pdf](http://www.town.rye.nh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlif3751/f/uploads/07_dog_ordinance.pdf)

[www.town.rye.nh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlif3751/f/uploads/01\\_beach\\_ordinance\\_with\\_dogs\\_0.pdf](http://www.town.rye.nh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlif3751/f/uploads/01_beach_ordinance_with_dogs_0.pdf)



Brochure design by L. Bizzari, FBE  
Additional information from NHDES  
Scoop the Poop resources  
Photo credit: FBE



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## WHY IS PET WASTE A PROBLEM?

- ❑ Pet waste left on the lawn, street, or beach is carried by rain or snow runoff directly into nearby waterbodies or into storm drains (which drain to waterbodies without treatment).
- ❑ Untreated animal fecal matter can become a source of harmful pathogens and nutrients in water.
- ❑ Others may step in it!



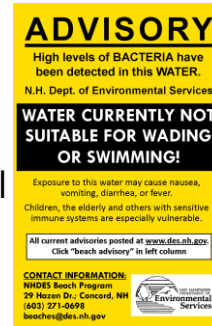
### FAST FACTS

- ❖ A single gram of dog feces contains 23 million fecal coliform bacteria<sup>1</sup>.
- ❖ Pet waste carries disease-causing organisms such as Giardia and Salmonella<sup>2</sup>. Infections can cause symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea, and stomach cramps.

<sup>1</sup>van der Wel (1999); <sup>2</sup>Pitt (1998)

## IMPACT OF PET WASTE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pet waste contributes to unsafe levels of bacteria in our waterbodies and on our beaches. High fecal bacteria levels indicate a higher risk of potential illness from contact with the water. Pet waste also contains nutrients that can cause excess algae growth.



Parsons Creek is impaired due to high levels of bacteria in the water. The state lists the Creek as impaired for both Primary Contact (swimming) and Secondary Contact (boating) Recreation. Pet waste has been identified as one of the potential sources of bacteria to the Creek.



## WHAT TO DO – QUICK TIPS

**BRING IT!**– Always bring a plastic bag when you walk your dog. Old bread bags or newspaper bags work great!

**BAG IT!**– Use the bag as a glove to pick up the pet waste. Scoop up the waste and turn the bag inside out around waste.

**DISPOSE IT!**– Properly dispose of the waste by placing it in a trash can, flushing it unbagged down the toilet, or burying it. To bury waste, place in a hole at least 5” deep and away from any veggie gardens.



## NEVER PUT PET WASTE INTO A STORM DRAIN

Did you know that storm drains flow directly to nearby streams, rivers, or estuary without any treatment? This means that dog waste and other pollutants left in the yard, on the street, or placed in storm drains, go straight into our waterbodies when rain falls.