

## Storm drains lead to the ocean

- ❁ Runoff entering storm drains flows directly to our lakes, rivers, and oceans untreated.
- ❁ Storm drains are intended for rainwater only and it is important to not dump waste of any kind in them.
- ❁ Pet waste left on the street or ground will eventually wash into storm drains discharging directly onto Willard Beach.



This flyer was created through a collaboration between the City of South Portland and the Maine Healthy Beaches Program.



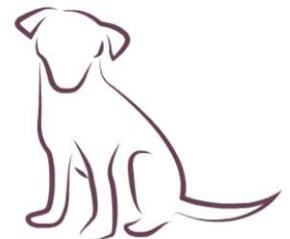
With questions or concerns contact:

Stormwater Program  
(207) 767-7675  
or  
Parks & Recreation  
(207) 767-7650

If interested in water quality visit  
[www.maine.gov/dep/water/index.html](http://www.maine.gov/dep/water/index.html)

## What to Do With Doo

Clean up after your pets to help keep South Portland's water clean!



## The Inside Scoop

**Pet waste contributes to unsafe bacteria levels in water and sand.**



**Symptoms that can occur from contact with unsafe bacteria levels:**

- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Stomach cramps
- Chills and fever
- Skin rashes
- Infections (eyes, ears, nose, and throat)



## What to do

- 🐾 **Pick it up with a plastic bag and place in a trash can or proper receptacle**
- 🐾 **Flush it down the toilet**  
\*Do not flush any type of bag
- 🐾 **Bury it in your yard**  
\*Dig a hole about five inches deep and away from vegetable gardens
- 🐾 **Compost for use on flowers and other decorative plants.**  
\*Do not use on vegetable gardens



## The Bottom Line

**Preventing pet waste from making its way into our water resources is an easy way you can help keep our beaches healthy and safe for swimming.**



Did you know . . .

Just one gram of dog feces contains 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. That is nearly twice the 13 million found in human waste!

[www.stopthehogs.com/pdf/pathogens.pdf](http://www.stopthehogs.com/pdf/pathogens.pdf); Van der Wel 1995.

