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.

What to Do With Doo

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

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
**The Inside Scoop**

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

![Image of a child picking up dog waste]

**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.

![Image of a beach with a dog]

**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!