



Pet Waste

Problem: Dog waste left on the ground causes excess nutrients and bad bacteria such as E. coli to enter the storm water system. So?

So that stormwater goes untreated to public detention basins, to our groundwater, and out to Utah Lake and the surrounding wetlands.

Plus, it's just gross to leave it! Residents deserve to be able to go outdoors w/o fear of stepping in dog poop.

Dog poop is a "target pollutant" in the state of Utah as well as here in Orem. Meaning it is a known source of common pollutants affecting water quality. At Lakeside Sports Park we have seen an excessive amount of dog waste in 2025 increasing the risk of bacteria and disease in our local water bodies. So, let's talk solutions.

Solution: Our own parks division especially in coordination with our volunteer coordinator Laura Bascom have installed dozens of doggie bag stations in our public use areas. She noticed the issue several years ago and made huge strides to improve the availability of clean up bags for dog owners. If you see a need for a doggie bag station in a certain area, please let us know.

Now those bag stations are only effective if:

(1) they are stocked (please call or text Orem Help Center if you discover an empty one).

(2) used as intended.

(3) bagged waste is disposed of in a trash receptacle. Otherwise we now have dog poop and microplastics to worry about getting mixed in with the stormwater.

What about at home? Equally as important is to clean up pet waste at home. It keeps your yard more sanitary and prevents contaminated runoff from leaving your property.

Please, do your part to keep stormwater runoff free of dog waste and our lawns in Orem clean and green! Thank you.