

Dog Poo and the Great Barrier Reef.



Dog poo contains parasites*

*Campylobacteriosis, tapeworm, E. Coli and Salmonellosis.

STOP THE SPREAD.
Please bin it, thanks!

www.ReefClean.org/DontDump

ReefClean
Educate • Reduce • Prevent

- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority lists plastic marine debris as one of the main threats to the reef.
- The Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database shows single-use plastic items like dog poo bags are a major litter issue facing reef and waterways across Australia.
- Animal waste might seem like a small source of pollution, but it can add up to big problems for water quality, particularly when combined with plastic litter.
- Dog poo contains bacteria, germs and parasites that can transmit diseases and infections to humans, such as Salmonella, Campylobacteriosis, Cryptosporidiosis, Toxocariasis, Hookworm infection, Echinococcosis (caused by tapeworms) and Giardia.
- Dog poo contains nutrients that cause excessive algal and weed growth, and even eutrophication. This can make the water unusable for swimming, boating, or fishing.
- Plastic from dog poo bags breaks up and gets into the soil, air, waterways and the ocean.
- Plastic items pose a threat to marine animals from entanglement, smothering, and ingestion as well as accumulation of toxins attached to the plastic.
- In order to make a difference to contamination of our soil, water, food and air, we all need to do our bit.

Dog owners can do this by:

- Being prepared - carry a bag, trowel or scooper with you on every walk with your dog
- Picking up after your dog
- Disposing of dog poo bags responsibly, in a designated bin or appropriate compost facility
- Keeping plastics out of soil and waterways
- Raising awareness of the toxicity of plastics and dog poo

Did you know?

Dog poo doesn't just decompose. It adds harmful bacteria, parasites and nutrients to local waterways when it's not disposed of properly.

For more information, resources and references go to: www.reefclean.org/dontdump

ReefClean is funded by the Australian Government's Reef Trust

