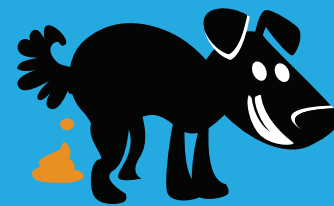


TIPS FOR TALKING ABOUT DOG POOP

IT'S A TOUGH JOB, BUT SOMEONE'S GOT TO DO IT...



Pollution from pet poop is a problem in our community. Unfortunately, there is some misinformation about it, and some people aren't taking it seriously. It can be awkward or difficult to talk to someone who doesn't believe it is a problem. Here are some ideas on how to successfully talk to people about the importance of scooping the poop on walks and in the backyard.



DON'T BLAME OR SHAME. ALWAYS APPROACH SOMEONE WITH THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE OR THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED MISINFORMATION.



ALWAYS APPROACH SOMEONE WITH A HELPFUL AND NICE ATTITUDE.



USE A LITTLE HUMOR AND TRY TO REMAIN LIGHTHEARTED DURING YOUR CONVERSATION.



MAKE IT PERSONAL. PEOPLE ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND SOMETHING IF THEY CAN RELATE TO IT. TRY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE:



"I SCOOP BECAUSE I WANT MY GRANDCHILD TO BE SAFE WHEN THEY GO SWIMMING"



"I SCOOP BECAUSE I DON'T WANT MY DOG'S POOP TO GET OTHER DOGS SICK"



OFFER UP A FEW REASONS WHY IT MATTERS. PEOPLE BECOME MOTIVATED TO CHANGE THEIR BEHAVIOR FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS. TRY TO FIND ONE THAT STRIKES A CORD WITH THE PERSON YOU'RE TALKING WITH.



HEALTH HAZARD - BAD FOR PEOPLE, PETS, NEIGHBORS, AND WILDLIFE



ENVIRONMENTAL - POLLUTES OUR COMMUNITY WATERWAYS



IT'S GROSS - NOBODY WANTS TO STEP IN IT. DON'T RUIN SOMEONE'S DAY



IF THEY STILL AREN'T CONVINCED - IT'S THE LAW



ALWAYS BE HONEST AND DON'T EXAGGERATE.



TRY TO DEBUNK COMMON MYTHS WHEN YOU CAN, OR SEND THEM TO OUR WEBSITE.



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