

# Why do H<sub>2</sub>O heroes scoop poop?



## To:

- Fight the spread of unsafe diseases and bacteria
- Stop SIP (step in poop) occurrences
- Earn their dog's undying affection
- Protect water quality
- All of the above

H<sub>2</sub>O Heroes know that when pet waste is left behind, it washes into stormdrains and ditches. From there, it heads straight to our local rivers, lakes and streams. No filters, no cleansing.

**Be an H<sub>2</sub>O Hero and your dog's best friend — scoop it, bag it, and pitch it in the trash!**



Learn more at [allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com](http://allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com).

## Tips for H<sub>2</sub>O heroes

### Properly dispose of dog poop and kitty litter.

Scoop it, bag it, and pitch it in the trash. Pet waste is not suitable for compost or fertilizer. It can carry diseases and bacteria, which are unsafe for humans.

### Don't flush drugs.

Wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to "filter out" drugs and personal care items. Dispose of excess or unwanted pet medications through a drug take-back program. Check with your veterinarian, pharmacist or police department for options.

Learn more at [greatlakescleanwater.org](http://greatlakescleanwater.org).

### Safely dispose of pet sharps.

Needles, syringes with attached needles and disposable lancets, all known as "sharps" can injure family members, waste and recycling workers, or end up in places where they are a danger to the public. Place sharps in a hard plastic or metal container with a tightly secured lid and dispose of them through your county's household hazardous waste collection program.

Learn more at [safeneedledisposal.org](http://safeneedledisposal.org).

For information on pet waste disposal and other ways to protect water:

[allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com](http://allianceofdownriverwatersheds.com)

[www.hrwc.org](http://www.hrwc.org)

