

Your Dog Your Responsibility



Introduction

This booklet will explain what is expected by law and also by your community to make the area not only nice for dog walkers but for everyone. As well as helping to ensure that you do not end up facing a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to **£1000** if prosecuted.

If you have a dog then **you** are responsible for its actions, much like having a child.

It is not only an **offence** and irresponsible to allow your dog to foul on open space and not clean up, but potentially **dangerous** and highly unpleasant.

Nobody likes to go for a walk in pleasurable open spaces that the borough has to offer and end up with dog faeces on their shoes, that could end up in your car, or on your carpets at home.

You would never forget to take your lead so you should treat carrying dog poo bags exactly the same way.

No Excuses



Where the Law Stands?

Using powers under the **Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014** East Staffordshire Borough Council has implemented five dog related orders under this legislation including:

- Failure to remove dog faeces.
- Failure to keep a dog on a lead in a PSPO area.
- Failure to keep a dog out of a PSPO area where dogs are excluded.
- Failure to put and keep a dog on a lead when instructed.
- Failure to provide a receptacle to clean up after your dog has fouled.

Using these powers the Council can issue a Fixed Penalty Notice of **£75** to any person that lets their dog foul and does not pick it up. Not being aware that your dog has fouled is not considered a reasonable excuse for leaving it.

If you are issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice and you choose not to pay, you could be prosecuted. The maximum penalty is **£1,000**.

Whenever you go out with your dog, carry some bags with you as it is now an offence not to have the means to pick up. Having no bags with you is not a reasonable excuse for not clearing up and you will still be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice.

What is a PSPO?

Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a specific area, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone.

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Consequences of Dog Fouling

Direct contact with dogs that have Toxocara worms cannot immediately lead to infection, as Toxocara eggs need to mature in soil for several weeks before they are able to infect humans.

According to figures published by the Keep Britain Tidy campaign, there are estimated to be more than 8 million dogs producing more than 1,000 tonnes of mess every day in the UK alone.

When Toxocara eggs are swallowed they hatch in the intestine. The juvenile (not fully grown worms) burrow through the intestine wall into the blood stream, which can then carry them to any part of the body.

Eventually the worms die. At the point where they die, small abscesses or granulomas (small masses of inflamed tissue) may develop. In some cases, fibrous tissue may build up around the worm, sealing it in.

The eggs of the parasite can be found in soil or sand contaminated with faeces and, if swallowed, result in infection that lasts between six and 24 months.

Toxocariasis disease can cause asthma, epilepsy and blindness, but also milder symptoms such as fevers and coughs. More than 200 cases are reported every year, mostly in children. Around eight children a month develop eye disease as a result of Toxocara infection.

It takes two weeks for faeces to become infectious. Fresh faeces pose no threat from Toxocara. Therefore 'Poop-scooping' is a safe and effective way of dealing with dog faeces.

Clean up after you dog

Consequences of Dog Fouling

Parasites can be transmitted to livestock through infected dog waste being left on grazing land.

Some of these parasites cause diseases in livestock which can result in death of sheep and abortion in cattle.

Did You Know?

- Cattle can catch Neosporosis by eating food or drinking water contaminated with Neospora eggs from dog faeces
- Neosporosis causes cows to abort calves and the infection can quickly spread to the whole herd
- Dogs can catch Neosporosis from contaminated meat and if they develop symptoms, most cases are fatal
- There is currently no treatment or vaccination for Neosporosis
- Sarcocytosis is a similar disease spread by parasites in dog faeces that cause brain disease and death in sheep

What Can You Do To Keep Your Dog Safe?

- Always pick up your dog's faeces and dispose of it safely. This will stop the disease from spreading
- Don't let your dog eat the remains of dead animals when you are out walking in the countryside

Keep your dog safe

Responsible Dog Ownership

What Can You Do?

1. Train your dog in elementary obedience
2. **Never** let your dog out alone
3. Keep your dog on a lead, especially where there are other animals or children and where there is a Public Space Protection Order in place
4. Train your dog not to foul in public places. If it does foul make sure you **"Bag It and Bin It"**
5. Identify your dog by having it micro chipped. In addition your dog should always wear a collar and tag, **It's The Law**
6. Register your pet with a vet of your choice
7. Have your dog regularly wormed
8. Feed your dog at regular times and with a nutritionally balanced diet



Financial Consequences

How Much Is The Fine?

If you have been found to have allowed your dog to foul and made no attempt to pick up after them, you will be issued an on the spot ...

£75.00 Fixed Penalty Notice

This will be issued by an Authorised Officer of
East Staffordshire Borough Council

What Will Happen If You Don't Pay?

You will be given 14 days to pay. If you pay within 10 days the cost will be reduced to £50.00.

Should you fail to pay within the 14 day period it will result in legal proceedings being taken against you and will result in a fine of up to ...

£1,000 Fine



Reporting Dog Fouling

How Can I Report A Dog Fouling Issue?

If you are aware of someone that is continuously allowing their dog to foul then please follow the steps below:

1. Please make a note of what **times** the person is walking with their dog. For example every day at 2pm or on a Sunday at 4pm.
2. Please make a note of the **description** of the person and also what kind of dog they have i.e. breed or colour etc.
3. The **area** that they go to or come from. For example they come along 'Blake Street and go to Kingsdale Park'.
4. Where possible a **name** and **address** of the person allowing their dog to foul.
5. **Contact us** with this information on the below details.

All information is kept strictly confidential.

As a result the suspected culprit will not find out who has provided us with the information.

Telephone: **01283 508036** or **01283 508506**

Email: **community.civil_enforcement@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk**

Love where you live

Contact Us

As a council we are committed to tackling dog fouling from a zero tolerance perspective. However in order to catch the perpetrators we need [your](#) help.

If you are concerned about dog fouling or any other areas mentioned in this leaflet please contact us on the following:

Telephone numbers

01283 508506 or **01283 508036**

Email

community.civil_enforcement@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Address

**Community and Civil Enforcement Team
The Maltsters
Wetmore Road,
Burton upon Trent,
DE14 1LS**





Don't Think So!

Clean up after your dog or

Face a £1000 Fine

community.civil_enforcement@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

01283 508036

