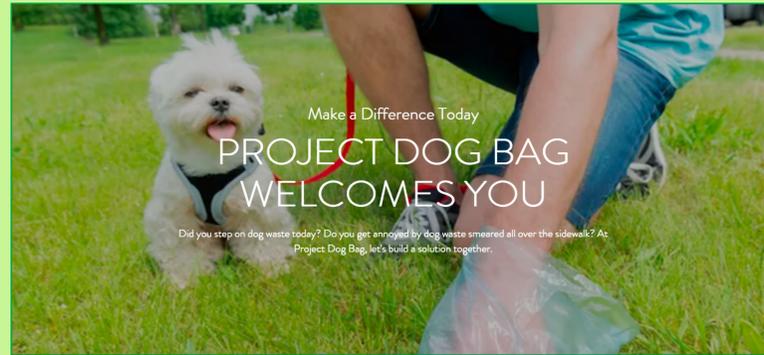




# PROJECT DOG BAG



**Objectives:**

1. Raise public awareness of the detrimental health and environmental consequences of dog waste in open space.
2. Advocate use and made available of compostable dog bags to help a cleaner, healthier, and safer environment for kids and adults.

**Phases Accomplished:**

**Phase 1 (Education & Survey):**

- 1 Printed & distributed informational flyers to describe the detrimental health and environmental consequences of dog waste.
- 2 Conducted a neighborhood survey on dog waste awareness.

- 3 Prepared a short presentation to my neighbors on my action plan and how it helps the environment.

**Phase 2 (Motion & Advocate):**

- 1 Action plan with the Mercado Way HOA (Home Owners Association).
- 2 In Q1'18 HOA meeting, discussed my research findings and interest levels of my neighbors from survey in Phase 1.
- 3 Put on agenda to discuss my proposal in upcoming HOA meeting.
- 4 Researched cost of dog bag dispensers and compostable bags to be presented in HOA meeting.

### Ever leave poop behind?

In your yard, on the trail, out of sight?

**Here's what happens**

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

**NOT PICKED UP**

from

dog park      your lawn

**Decomposition Begins**

Toxic bacteria seeps into the soil

Poop carries dangerous pathogens and pollutes our freshwater supply

rain/humidity

dog poop

disease, bacteria, and pathogens seeping through

Wastewater treatment systems is NOT designed to filter dog waste!

beaches, lakes, streams drinking water

Then what? **Always bag it & trash it!** Even when no one is watching!

**Did You Know?**

Dog poop is the #3 cause of water pollution

72.8 million dogs currently live in the United States

40% of Americans don't pick up after their dogs

44% wouldn't pick up if asked

40% 60%

are lying

**Beware!**

1 gram of dog feces contains 23 million fecal bacteria

1g =

**Diseases & Viruses**

Campylobacteriosis      Salmonellosis

symptoms: fever, vomiting, heathen lymph nodes      symptoms: fever, shock, delirium, dehydration, more

Toxocariasis (roundworms)      Coccidia

symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, worms in feces      symptoms: bloody diarrhea, vomiting, dehydration, more

Cysticercosis (Tapeworms)      E.coli, Giardia, Parvo

symptoms: anemia, seizures      symptoms: diarrhea, vomiting

**FACT:** Our natural ecosystem can handle 2 dogs per square mile. In urban areas, there are 125 dogs per square mile.

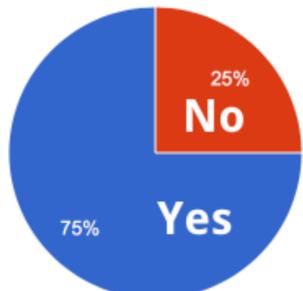
**Other Methods of Transportation**

Flies & pets      Humans especially children      Water & moisture

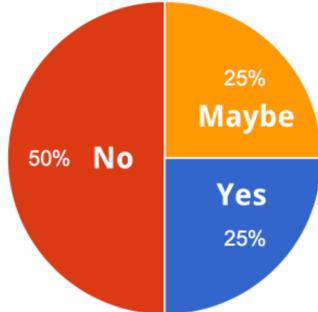
According to the EPA, dog poop is as toxic to the environment as chemical and oil spills.

**Neighborhood Survey Summary**

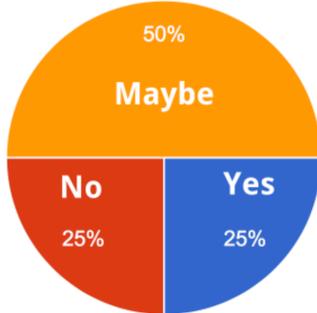
1. Do you notice dog wastes in our community? →



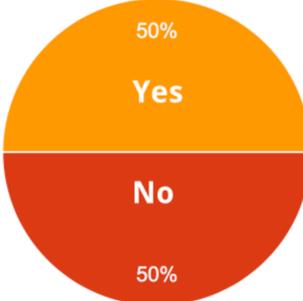
← 2. Severity of dog waste noticed?



3. Are you aware of health hazard from dog waste? →



← 4. Do you support installation of dog bag dispensers in neighborhood to reduce exposed dog waste?



5. Are you willing to spend time and money to install dog bag dispensers? →

**Background:**

1. First time dog owners in new neighborhood.
2. Dog owners leaving dog poop behind.
3. Neighbors not aware of dog feces in lawn leading to health hazards.

**Impact**

- Aroused awareness of a seemingly insignificant issue.
- Generally positive feedback from neighborhood to take action.

**Results**

Half of respondents not aware of health hazard => More education and flyers in the summer months to raise awareness.

**Future plans & directions.**

- Next step to convince and to get approval from HOA for funding and locations of dispenser locations.
- Extend awareness to adjacent communities.
- For further information, please visit <https://domii2003.wixsite.com/projectdogbag>

**Acknowledgments**

- Mercado Way HOA (San Jose) Board members
- Berryessa Crossings Neighbors participation in survey
- Wix.com for free hosting of projectdogbag materials
- <https://iheartdogs.com/the-shocking-truth-about-not-picking-up-your-dogs-poop/>