

BAG IT & BIN IT



**Clean up after your dog
or face a £500 fine**

Dalbeattie Community Council & Dalbeattie Community Police,
working together for a cleaner environment 2005.

The Problem

Dog ownership not only brings joy and companionship but also a certain level of responsibility, including cleaning up after your dog when it does its business.

While the majority of dog owners are responsible and carry poop scoop bags there are still a number of irresponsible owners who allow their pets to foul footpaths roads and verges while they ignore the mess left behind.

This is not only unsightly, smelly and dangerous it is also against the law.

The Cost

You could face a fine of £500 if you don't clean up after your dog

The Reasons

Aside from the aesthetic issues surrounding the unpleasant mess left by some dog owners, dog faeces can carry a parasitic roundworm called *Toxacara Canis*. This parasite can cause illness, including loss of vision in extreme cases, in people who accidentally ingest the worm's eggs.

The Solutions

- ❖ Encourage your dog to go in the garden at home where faeces can be buried or cleaned up easily.
- ❖ When walking your dog always carry a poop scoop or a simple plastic bag.
- ❖ Every time your dog fouls bag it and bin it.
- ❖ Never let your dog out alone to do its business

There are NO excuses, leaving dog faeces is unacceptable.

The Law

Under the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003, it is an offence if a dog does its business at any time in any place to which the Act applies, and the person who is in charge of the dog at the time fails to remove the faeces immediately. This includes any place in the open air to which the public or any section of the public has access, for example: common passages, closes, courts, stairs, back greens, gardens, yards, parks and pavements.

Always remember it is the person in charge of the dog at the time it defecates who is responsible for cleaning up. Failure to do so means you have committed an offence.

Being unaware that the dog has fouled or having no suitable materials with which to clean up is no excuse.

And finally, proceedings for an offence of this nature can rely on the evidence of only one witness so clean up or face up to a fouling charge.