



What Does the Mutts for the Bay Program Do?



What is Mutts for the Bay?

The Mutts for the Bay program provides free, biodegradable bags for picking up pet waste all over town and educates the public about keeping our bay clean. They maintain more than 27 dispensers throughout the watershed in partnership with the City of Morro Bay, the County of San Luis Obispo, and a group of dedicated community volunteers.

Why is it Important to Pick Up After Your Dog?

The 5,500 dogs that live in Morro Bay and Los Osos produce an average of 19,000 pounds (or about 9.5 tons) of dog poop each week. An average-size dog dropping produces nearly twice as much bacteria as human waste. If left on the ground, after it rains the waste can seep into the ground and wash into local storm drains and waterways. This eventually ends up in the bay. The bacteria from all this waste can be harmful to people and to the environment. Dog poop can take up to a year to break down.

Bacteria Monitoring in Morro Bay

Our 2017 State of the Bay report summarizes bay bacteria monitoring from 2005-2016. Bacteria levels at most locations meet water quality standards for recreational contact, although two locations in the back bay exceeded the standard in 20% or less of the samples tested. Keeping pet waste from entering the bay is one way to help reduce bacteria levels. The connection to water quality is important—picking up after your pet is not just about keeping our parks and lawns clean. It is also about clean water that we all enjoy.

How Can You Support Mutts for the Bay?

Help maintain the program by donating at: <https://www.mbnep.org/donate/>



For more information visit www.surfersforwetlands.org



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