Until they can take care of their own business, it's your business.

Did you know . . . that pet waste is the leading source of harmful bacteria that makes our waterways unsafe for swimming and other recreational activities? Leaving pet waste on lawns or sidewalks means that harmful bacteria can get washed into our waterways untreated when it rains.

It’s the Law. Waste left by a dog on any property other than the owner’s must be promptly cleaned up by the pet owner and properly disposed of in the trash.

So what can you do? Simple.

Whether you are on a walk in your neighborhood or around the harborfront, collect your pet’s waste in a plastic bag and dispose of it in the trash to prevent it from washing into our waterways.

Burying pet waste may seem practical, but it does not kill harmful bacteria that are present in the waste. Also, disposing of pet waste in storm drains is never allowed.

Let’s keep Patchogue dog-friendly by being responsible dog owners. Pet waste bag stations are located around the Village, but it’s always a good idea to carry your own clean-up bags.

So unless you have your dog thoroughly toilet trained - don’t forget, clean up after your pet.