

*Township of Hopewell, NJ  
Friday, November 13, 2020*

## Chapter 5. Animal Control

### § 5-3.3. Removal of Pet Waste on Public or Private Lands.

[Ord. #BH: 2004-2; Ord. #19-1703]

To protect the health, safety and welfare of all those frequenting this township, by preventing the needless health hazards, nuisances and surface water contamination caused by pet wastes (feces) upon public and private property, the following standards shall apply to pet waste management:

- a. No person owning or in charge of any pet shall cause or allow such pet to soil, defile, defecate or do damage upon or commit any nuisance upon any private property, without the permission of the owner of the property. Any person owning or in charge of a pet which soils, defiles, defecates or commits any such nuisance shall immediately remove all waste deposited by such pet in a sanitary manner.
- b. No person owning or in charge of any pet shall cause or allow such pet to soil, defile, defecate or do damage upon or commit any nuisance on any place where people congregate or walk, or upon any public property. Any person owning or in charge of a pet which soils, defiles, defecates or commits any such nuisance shall immediately remove all pet waste deposited by such pet in a sanitary manner.
- c. No person shall permit the accumulation of pet waste upon their property, or property occupied by them, to the extent that the odor may be noticeable to the adjoining property owners, attract insects or rodents and/or become a source of pollution.
- d. The pet waste removed from the aforementioned designated areas shall be disposed of by the person owning or in charge of any such pet in a sealed, nonabsorbent, leak proof container. Disposition in a sanitary manner shall include taking the pet waste home for disposal, placing it in a sealable plastic bag or wrapping and placing same in a trash can. Disposal shall not include burial, disposal by placement in a storm sewer, or placing unwrapped pet waste in a trash can.
- e. It shall be a complete defense to violations of the above subsections if a person shall have immediately removed such pet waste and disposed of it in a sanitary manner.
- f. The provision of this section shall not apply to disabled persons who may use their dogs as guides unless accompanied by a sighted person.
- g. In the event of a violation on private property, a complaint is only to be filed by the owner of such property. In the event of such a violation occurring on public property, thoroughfare, walkways or parks, a complaint may be filed by any witness to such an act.
- h. The animal control officer, police officer, registered environmental health specialist, public health investigator, or any other authorized representative of the township, may enforce the provisions of this section. A property owner may enforce this section by filing a complaint in municipal court.