

The Law

The Dogs (Fouling of Land Act 1996) came into force in August 1996 and provided national legislation to control dog fouling.

Selby District Council introduced a number of key provisions on the 18th August 1997 as follows :

The regulations apply to all designated land in the open air in the Selby District.

The only exemptions are :

Carriageways with a speed limit of greater than 40 mph and land running alongside them.

Agricultural land and woodlands.
Marshland, moor or heath.
Rural Common land.

Offence

In all other areas in the Selby district it is an offence if you fail to clear up the faeces made by a dog in your charge (even if the owner is absent) This means that if a person has committed an offence by:

Permitting a dog in his/her charge to defecate on any land and failing to remove the faeces forthwith (whether or not a receptacle is available)

Under this act the offender may be ordered to pay a fine, the maximum penalty on conviction is (currently £1000)

NOTE: Being unaware of the fouling, not being with the dog or not having suitable equipment to remove the mess will not be accepted as a reasonable excuse – this means that the local authority has the potential to prosecute owners who let their dogs roam unattended.

If you do see a dog walker not picking up after their dog make a note of the date, time, description of the dog and owner at the earliest convenient time and report the matter to Selby District Council.

Selby District Council will take action upon receipt of information from members of the public about anyone failing to clear up the faeces left by a dog in their care.

For more information
Telephone 01757 705101
Mobile 07970 595199

Please help to make Selby District a cleaner, safe place for everyone by becoming a more responsible dog owner.

Access Selby

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SELBY
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Moving forward with purpose

Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act, 1996

How it affects YOU and...



YOUR DOG!

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTROL DOG FOULING

Dog faeces is one of the more unpleasant aspects of dog ownership. It is every dog owner's duty to clean up after their dog.

We all know how unpleasant it is to see dog faeces lying around the pavements and public spaces and it is even more unpleasant to step in it or to run the wheels of a push chair or buggy through it.

The minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs damage the reputation of the responsible dog owners who do.

Dog faeces may contain worms, or the eggs from the Round-worm *Toxocara Canis*.

It is every owner's duty to clean up after their dog, there are no excuses. Fouling is unacceptable.

If you are caught not picking up your dog's fouling you could be fined up to £1000.

Toxocara Canis

The UK has a dog population of approximately 7 million dogs which produce up to 1000 tons of faeces daily.

This Faeces may contain the eggs of the *Toxocara* worm, which can potentially cause harm to humans, approximately 40 per year in the UK. This infection in humans is called *Toxocariasis*.

The eggs from the *Toxocara* worm take approximately 2 weeks to hatch and become active. If left they can enter soil or other permeable surfaces. If the dog owner cleans up the faeces immediately there are no health risks to their own health from these worms.

Toxocara eggs can be picked up from soil, dogs' coats etc. They are so small that they will not be visible to those swallowing them, so hands should be washed after contact with contaminated soil. The eggs then hatch in the intestine and may penetrate the intestinal wall and migrate around the body causing problems wherever they migrate to.

Toxocara worm eggs are most commonly found in pregnant bitches and puppies, but can be found in all dogs.

Toxocara eggs can lie dormant for a number of years in the right conditions. They are highly resistant to temperature changes and chemical disinfectants.

THE SOLUTION

If you have a garden teach your dog to go there before you leave home this can then be disposed of after your return.

Always carry the means to clear up after your dog such as a bio degradable bag or plastic bag.

Every time your dog fouls clean it up.

Never let your dog out unattended to toilet, this should go without saying.

Have your dog wormed regularly to protect you and your dog. Your vet can advise on a worming routine.

Always wash your hands after clearing up after your dog. Wash children's hands after they have been handling soil or pets.

Put your dog fouling bag into a marked dog bin or into any refuse bin.

Do not throw the bag into a hedge or anywhere else as this is littering which carries the same penalty as dog fouling.

Do not rely on the rain to wash it away, this is just a lazy excuse to not pick it up.