

Poo Facts

Because there is no Poo Fairy to make it disappear

THE STINKY TRUTH ABOUT DOG POO

- It doesn't biodegrade like wild animal waste
- One little pile can hang around for up to a year
- It is actually a food source for rats and flies and other pests
- It is rich in vitamin K, which provides rats with an antidote to common rodent poisons
- Poo is not lawn fertilizer
- The EPA has classified dog poo as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oil
- It contains a host of bacteria that are harmful to humans, especially kids, and your dog
- 1 gram of dog poo can contain 23 MILLION fecal coliform bacteria, not to mention salmonella, giardia and other stuff we can't even spell
- You may not live near water, but unscooped poo from your yard is carried overland by rain, washed into stormdrains and ends up in streams, rivers and ground water
- Poo is a serious pollutant impacting the quality of our waterways and affecting our fish and crabs
- For you technical people, poo adds nitrogen to H₂O and excess nitrogen depletes the oxygen in the water necessary for beneficial underwater wildlife
- Not picking up the poo can cost you financially because many cities and counties levy heavy fines even for leaving dog poo on your property



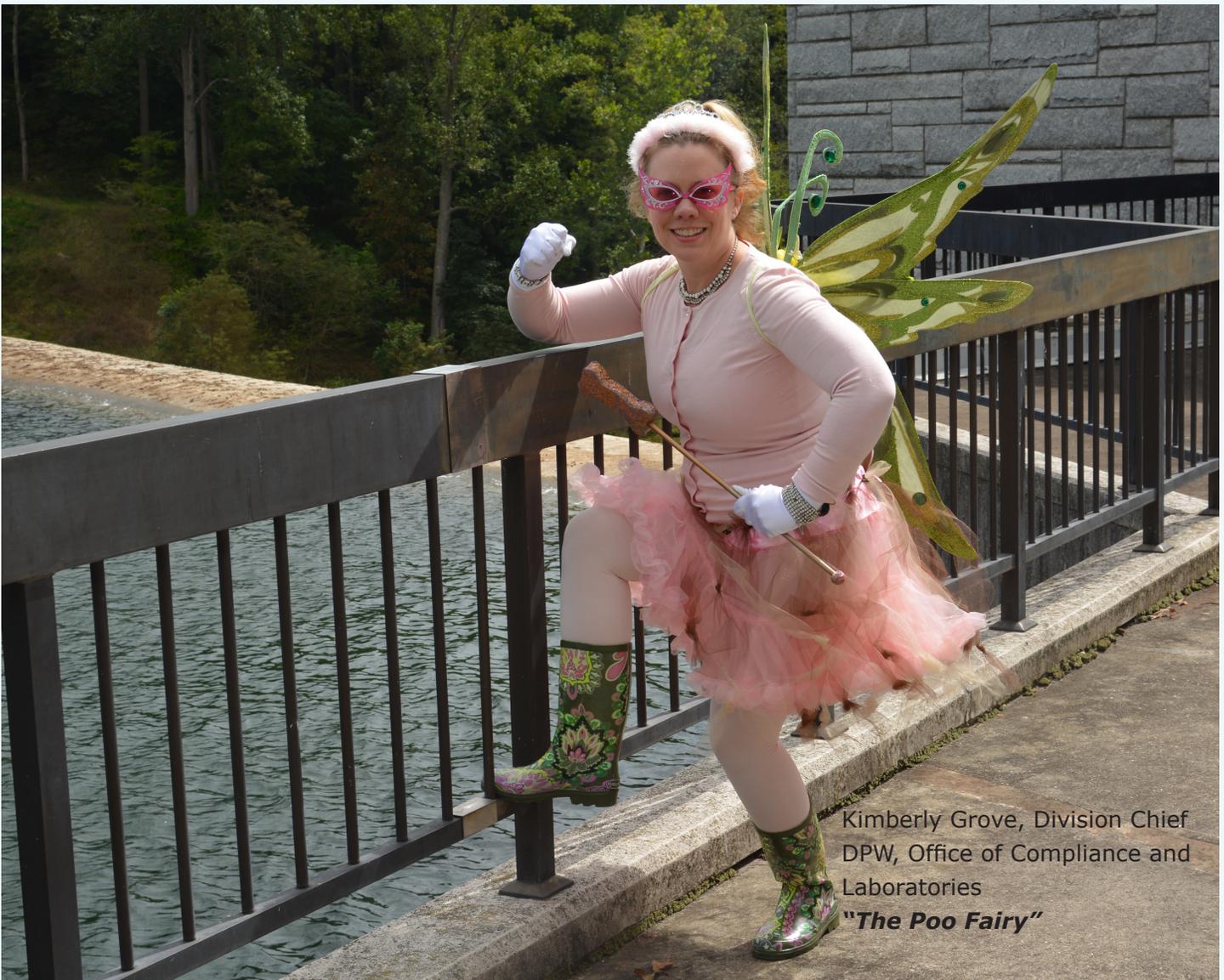
TOP REASONS TO ALWAYS PICK UP THE POO

- 💧 It's stinky, and smells even worse stuck to your shoe
- 💧 Ignoring it will not make it go away
- 💧 Your neighbors will appreciate it
- 💧 Your dog might eat some other dog's poo -- and kiss you later
- 💧 The rain carries it from our yards to our streams
- 💧 Crabs and other Maryland seafood don't want to drink polluted water
- 💧 You want to enjoy the water
- 💧 We all live downstream from someone who might have a dog

Just saying... it's the law for some pretty good reasons.



For more information, call 311 or email publicworks@baltimorecity.gov.



Kimberly Grove, Division Chief
DPW, Office of Compliance and
Laboratories
"The Poo Fairy"