

Doggie Dinnie Trial

Addressing the issue of contamination



Introduction

In early 2020, a dog park in South Australia trialled a Doggie Dinnie waste bin for 12 weeks. The Doggie Dinnie is a dog waste bin designed and made in Western Australia for the clean separation of compostable dog waste bags. The maze design of the lid which includes a rubbish limiter, makes it difficult to put general rubbish into the bin. The Doggie Dinnie was also trialled at a local family beach in June 2020 ([Doggie Dinnies](http://doggiedinnies.com.au)).

Implementation

For 12 weeks a dog park trial measured the amount of dog poop collected via two different bins. One was a 240-litre bin on wheels (wheelie bin) painted lime green and placed in the centre of the dog park, and the other the Doggie Dinnie bin located near the entrance gate. A regular waste bin was also placed in its usual spot in the car park at the main front gate entrance. Each week the bins were inspected for contamination by volunteers, weighed and put in the car park for the green organics truck to collect. The following morning, they were returned to their spots in the dog park.

Bright lime green signage was placed with both bins to instruct dog owners to only use compostable bags and only use the bin for dog waste. A sign was also placed on the lid of both bins. Signs on the gate and inside on the dog park fence also provided information about the project.



The family beach trial placed the Doggie Dinnie bin at the top of a boat ramp in the middle of the beach for 14 days. This included the June long weekend, with a public holiday on the Monday. The bin was in the same area as two general waste bins. The bin was inspected for contamination daily by volunteers and bin contents recorded (number and type of bags). There was no signage with the bin at the beach, except the sign stuck to the lid.

Results

Over 12 weeks 71.5 kilograms of the 201 kilograms (35.6%) was collected in the Doggie Dinnie in 1140 dog waste bags.

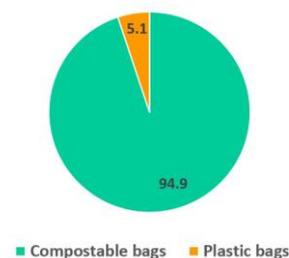
Contamination over 12 weeks:

- Doggie Dinnie - only 3 plastic bags, no non-bag rubbish
- Wheelie bin – 2 drink cans, 2 coffee cups, a dog rope toy, 3 chocolate wrappers and 17 plastic bags

Over 14 days at the local family beach, 78 bags dog waste bags were collected.

Only 4 were plastic (5.1%) and no other rubbish was found in the bins.

14-day Beach Trial - Doggie Dinnie Waste Bin
June 2020 (%)



Summary

During the 12-week and 14-day trials, very little rubbish was found in any of the bins except dog waste. Based on these two trials, it seems with adequate signage, the Doggie Dinnie is an effective way to collect dog waste without contamination from other rubbish. Signage and information sharing among dog owners also seemed to minimise non-dog waste bag rubbish in the 240-litre wheelie bin.

For more information about this trial contact ruthmiller5212@gmail.com