**Disposal of dog poop bags…is landfill the best option?**

Dog poo isn’t something much of us spend time thinking about….but it negatively affects most people. So to provide some clarity on key issues we have written a series of ‘mini-articles’ which we will be publishing on our Facebook page at [**https://www.facebook.com/dogfoul.org**](https://www.facebook.com/dogfoul.org?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZVzncDHD5Diwm1A81wW4ll970yJYJHQYJG2HQHZL0GmOaQ3Yjv5HxcKYHJYvUYDlWxJ0jsIdzpU4wop0tcfMpDJ0fbMLTZ7BAALYWa9nKof0NUrfn4V0Vhpx3ecD0bNTyYh3ld9qkWlTaZHGWVohzAu5hUSzbVF50cdcbscIPRfSAalaY_F-avW45WeXvjKuvjFA0HNAENbABuAT681xvK440Onu1aFK4eZTaXDOEZlHNcGgAx9CseF6nhdeb8SKuw&__tn__=-UK-R) and can be discussed on our group at [**https://www.facebook.com/groups/1280573255608909**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1280573255608909?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZVzncDHD5Diwm1A81wW4ll970yJYJHQYJG2HQHZL0GmOaQ3Yjv5HxcKYHJYvUYDlWxJ0jsIdzpU4wop0tcfMpDJ0fbMLTZ7BAALYWa9nKof0NUrfn4V0Vhpx3ecD0bNTyYh3ld9qkWlTaZHGWVohzAu5hUSzbVF50cdcbscIPRfSAalaY_F-avW45WeXvjKuvjFA0HNAENbABuAT681xvK440Onu1aFK4eZTaXDOEZlHNcGgAx9CseF6nhdeb8SKuw&__tn__=-UK-R)

**So onto the first subject! Where do all the Dog Poop bags end up?**

**Firstly, animal faeces** from dogs (and cats) are classified as offensive **waste and therefore cannot be spread on land**. This means that 78% end up going to authorised landfill and 19% to an incineration plant(Encams 2006). You can contact your local council if you are unsure of how they dispose of them.

**Landfill**

Essentially a landfill is a huge whole in the ground where the faeces and ‘doggy bags’ are tipped. But due to the absence of light and air in the landfill they are not likely to 'compost'. Instead they will either ‘mummify’ (more on that later) or if they break down with little to no oxygen they will produce methane which is a powerful greenhouse gas.

**Incineration**

Incineration is the process of combusting the organic elements within waste streams (in this case dog waste / dog waste bags). Industrially this process is also known as ‘thermal treatment’.

With that out of the way, we can now look at what doggy bags are made of and what happens to the three main types of doggy bags: Single Use Plastic (SUP), Biodegradeable Plastic (BP) and Compostable Bioplastics (CB).

To be continued.