

# LOVE my BEACH

The great news for dog owners in the North West is that there are huge areas of coast where dogs can be walked year round. However, every year between the 1st May and 30th September certain beaches have restrictions on where dogs can roam. These restrictions exist because this period is classed as Bathing Water Season, a time of the year when beaches are at their busiest and when local residents and tourists are most likely to be paddling and swimming in the sea.

Dogs, and dog waste, carry bacteria which can affect the safety of bathing waters plus they can be unwelcome visitors for some families and members of the public enjoying the beach. Follow this guide for enjoyable walks with your dog along our beautiful coastline.

Thank you for being a responsible dog owner and doing your bit to love the beach.

Improving the North West's beaches and bathing waters for generations to come.

Thank you for contributing to

# LOVE my BEACH

by being a responsible dog owner.

**Did you know there are other simple changes you can make to help improve beach and bathing water quality:**

## *Think before you flush*

Put disposable products such as wet wipes and sanitary items in the bin and not down the toilet, even if it says 'flushable' on the packet.

## *Check your sewerage connections*

If your property's connected to a septic tank, cesspit or package sewage treatment plant, make sure that it's working correctly and keep it maintained. Faulty or poorly maintained systems can cause serious pollution problems.

## *Catch your rainwater*

Use a water butt to collect rainwater for your garden and help reduce your tap water usage; improving your environmental footprint.

## *Drops in the ocean*

Wild birds such as seagulls and pigeons can badly affect water quality, so please do not feed these birds at bathing waters. Dog owners should act responsibly and ensure that they abide by dog orders and clean up after their pets.

## *Think before you pour*

Pour fats, oils & greases into a container and allow them to cool before putting them into the bin. Never pour them down the sink or wash them up; this will cause blockages in the sewage systems.

[www.lovemybeach.org](http://www.lovemybeach.org)



@LOVemyBEACH\_NW



/lovemybeachnw

# Dogs at the beach

North West England



# LOVE my BEACH

[lovemybeach.org](http://lovemybeach.org)



# Dog Walking Restrictions at Bathing Water Beaches

The areas marked in **RED** show areas of the coast where dogs **cannot** be walked during the bathing water season at any time of the day.

The coast is really important for wildlife all year round and many species are sensitive to dogs. Please read our 'disturbing wildlife' section to see how you can help.



## Morecambe Bay

Dogs are banned from Morecambe's North and South beaches. South Beach is defined as; Battery Breakwater to Stone Jetty Breakwater and North Beach is defined as Bubbles Breakwater to Green Street Breakwater.



## Fleetwood

Dogs are banned from the slipway opposite the end of Promenade Road eastwards to the site of the former Fleetwood pier.



## Cleveleys

Dogs are banned from Café Cove to Wyre Borough boundary.



## Blackpool

Dogs are banned from the southern side of North pier to the Solaris Centre/Mirror Ball, including all slopes and staircases leading to the beach.



## St Annes

Dogs are banned from the Lifeboat Station going north past the pier to the end of the North Promenade car park and to the tide line.



## Southport

Dogs are banned from the Pier south towards Pleasureland (for 555m) and to the tide line.



## Ainsdale

Dogs are banned 200m either side of the main beach entrance and to the tide line.

Restrictions in place 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September



# Good Dog Guide



## Bag It and Bin It



It's important that everyone is a responsible dog owner and bags and bins their dog's poo wherever they walk their dog; any bin will do. This prevents harmful bacteria from the poo getting into the water where people swim and paddle. There is also a risk to your dog when poo is left on the beach as worms can be passed on from another dog's poo.

LOVEmyBEACH dogs make sure their owners have dog poo bags on them at all times and never leave these on the beach.

## Disturbing Wildlife



Birds on the shore will either be roosting or feeding. Disturbance from dogs can prevent birds from breeding successfully and regular disturbance like this could mean the difference between life and death for them as they waste valuable energy. Please take particular care two hours either side of high tide when birds are resting by keeping your dog on a lead and well away from these areas.

LOVEmyBEACH dogs are trained to chase toys not birds.

## Safety on the Beach



Check the tide times on the LOVEmyBEACH website and observe these in order to stay safe.

Check maps, signs and flags at the beach for up to date safety information.

Please be wary of objects your dog could pick up on the beach especially sharp fish hooks or washed up palm oil; waxy white pebbles that dogs love the smell of but consumption could be extremely harmful.

