

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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Big Week in Britain

British parliamentarians resumed their UK Litter Inquiry hearings this week. The communities and local government committee heard testimony from industry groups in response to calls for tobacco, fast food, packaging and gum interests to share in the nation's £1bn litter cleanup costs. Businesses have been quick to reject the idea of a litter tax and most eschew any responsibility for litter. Respected American broadcaster and litter campaigner David Sedaris drew headlines when he told MPs the poor are to blame for littering. The inquiry heard from groups like CleanupUK in November, and a government Twitter account seeking photo evidence of litter hot spots received plenty of it from the public.



DID YOU KNOW?

Woking Borough Council took a shot at tackling littering foul play in October, issuing yellow cards to offenders on the street. "Stoptober" information sheets served as amnesty cards, warning litterers they risk a £75 fine if they are caught a second time. It was but one prong of council's *You Butt In, We'll Butt Out* campaign.



Texas litter at a dollar a piece

Everything's big in Texas including the cost of a piece of highway litter. A new state report pegs the price of picking up a single piece of litter at one dollar per item. Tire and rubber, paper, plastic, metal, vehicle parts and beer cans comprised the top finds by percentage.

← Cash for cans

A scheme to involve Australia's beverage industry funding in a deposit-return system for drink containers using high capacity reverse vending machines has won the approval of the government of New South Wales, AU. Environmentalists hail the move as a major stride in the drive for a nation-wide Cash for Containers strategy. A ten-cent deposit fee gets repaid at the machines, which have the capacity to receive, crush and hold 3,000 cans and PET bottles.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JAN 4 - 11)

Some of what made our News Reel this week
litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html

Will Philippines' papal mass be a papal mess? (4/1)

One of nine on his list of helpful hints, Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle is asking fellow Filipinos to keep their litter in check when Pope Francis holds mass at Quirino Stadium during his papal visit January 15 to 19.

Irish Litter League's year-end winners and losers (5/1)

Dublin's inner city is no longer a black spot. Kilkenny is three-time cleanest town champion. A record 85 per cent of Irish towns registered better than the EU norm. So reveals the latest report from the Irish Litter League, an ongoing project of Irish Businesses Against Litter (IBAL).

No littering after 12 p.m. here, please (1/6)

Nirmal Nahata, mayor of Jaipur, India wants folks to refrain from littering and throwing garbage after 12-noon when cleaners finish their shift. He rolled out his plan January 5.

Americans urged to lobby on litter this month (1/4)

Always ready with good advice, Steve Spacek, of website litterscorecard.com, publishes a how-to on lobbying state politicians for his "January 2015 Join In" advocacy drive.

Western Australia sets goals for cities to reach (1/7)

Goal-oriented Western Australia, teaming up with Keep Australia Clean, aims to cut litter by 25 per cent by 2020.