

# THIS WEEK IN “LITTERLAND”

[www.litterpreventionprogram.com](http://www.litterpreventionprogram.com)

June 7, 2015

## NORTHERN IRELAND'S STUDY IS A SHOCKER

Billed as Northern Ireland's most comprehensive study on litter, a new report says annual clean up costs continue to outpace inflation. Litter's presence forced street cleaning expenses of £40m in 2010/11, 14 per cent higher than the £34m expended the previous year, the report revealed.

It also exposed an uneven application of litter laws across different counties. Advocates at Tidy NI want governments to run tighter ships, urging them to elevate enforcement of litter laws to the same strict standard everywhere.



A signboard likening litterers to monkeys stirred up the chatter online this week. Seberang Prai Municipal Council resorted to the shaming campaign after all else failed. Signs are on trial until June 23 in four areas and seem to be working. More may be coming.

## **FOR YOUR TOOLBOX**

### **For Your Leisure and Pleasure**

As a change of pace from litter tracking, how about browsing the world's fine art without leaving your seat? Artsy.net features a bevy of artistic greats, including Canadian industrial-eco photographer Edward Burtynsky. The online gallery aims to make art accessible to the masses. [www.artsy.net](http://www.artsy.net)

### **Open Book on Marine Litter**

Last week we mentioned the arrival of a significant, new open access book on marine litter research that mines the knowledge of leading world experts. The Open Access DOI is 10.1007/978-3-319-16510-3.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Protection of the marine environment, marine governance and resource efficiency are key issues at the G7 Summit 2015 in Schloss Elmau, Germany, on June 7 and 8.

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAY 31 – JUN 7)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week [litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html](http://litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html)

### **Amateur filmmakers could win airtime for their ads (6/4)**

The best commercials decrying littering will air on KDKA-TV in a contest for amateur moviemakers launched by Pennsylvania Resource Council, phase 2 of its “Crying Steelers Fan” rollout.

### **Well-heeled litterers feel the boot in Guyana (6/4)**

Two prominent Guyanese businesspeople Bibi Anderson, and Zahir Hack became high profile examples of a stepped-up litter war. They were fined and named for dumping infractions.

### **Litterers spooked into compliance by signs (6/1)**

Superstition can work wonders, Truku Aborigines from Pratan in Hualien County, Taiwan can attest. “Whoever litters shall be cursed by the spirits of Pratan’s ancestors. Those who pick up garbage left by others shall be blessed by the spirits of Pratan’s ancestors. Take home what you bring — it is a cinch.” This wording on four signs erected along the Sanchan River at tourist locales have put a dampening effect on littering both by visitors and locals, says campaign spokesman Lin Yi-lang.

### **Dash cam came in handy as ‘litter lout’ recorder (6/4)**

Brit Paul Roberts filmed a roadside litter lout in action with his car’s dash cam. His video got good mileage on social media.

### **City of Toronto wants more plastic than just bags (6/1)**

A big advance for Toronto’s Blue Box curbside recycling: As of June 1 a raft of new plastic packaging is being collected.