

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

March 12, 2017

## Overflowing bins a thing of the past?

Groan. Sigh. At right, that familiar sight: waste items placed beside a bin that is full. To address this problem, Glasgow is running a trial retrofit to make 400 of its 10,000 public bins 'smart' Smart bins are increasingly common in the sanitation business. Sensors will telecommunicate to command central when the bins are about ready for emptying. Crews can be dispatched to install a fresh bag, not only removing the full bag but erasing one of the common excuses that people will give for littering: "The bin was full."

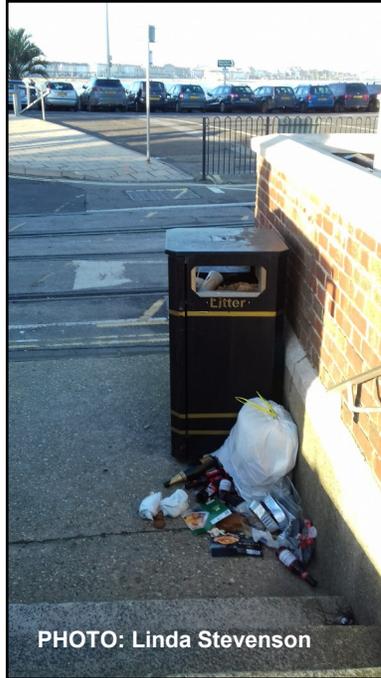


PHOTO: Linda Stevenson

## KFC not chicken to make moves

A new KFC franchise in North Town, UK has pledged more direct involvement in reducing the sight of litter. Employees already pick up litter at least eight times a day around the restaurant. To keep peace with its neighbours the Ash Road location will add three extra bins and signage telling customers not to litter.

## Private litter enforcement has its critics

Tesco supermarket in Liverpool has barred council's private litter enforcers from entering its car park, following customer complaints that officers' tactics are aggressive and intimidating. Kingdom, the company contracted to implement the city's new get-tough policy on littering, failed to obtain permission before its staff began hitting people in Tesco's parking lot with £80 fines. Store management called police to sort out a confrontation involving a smoker who reported that a fist-clenching officer shouted at him. A city spokesperson says the area will no longer be patrolled, but says the litter law covers all lands and council stands behind its private ticketing team.

## **Taking the high road in Cairo**

The government of Cairo will [establish a program](#) in Heliopolis that pays cash for empty cans, bottles and other non-organic materials for recycling. This Sunday the first two NGO-managed booths for these transactions will open. There will be a pickup service for people who can't deliver returnables to a booth. Cairo's move comes in response to its heavy pollution woes. By government's estimate, a loss equivalent to five per cent of gross domestic product is caused by pollution, mostly littering. In 2007 the World Health Organization said that breathing Cairo's air for one day was equivalent to smoking 20 cigarettes.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Brennan Fitzgerald, a councillor in Morinville, Alberta, is leaving politics after this term to concentrate on selling clothing online and cleaning up shorelines across Canada. His new social enterprise [SEA Change](#) pledges to pick up three pounds of beach litter for every item of clothing sold. He plans to start the cleanup efforts in Nova Scotia, his birthplace. A Kickstarter campaign is in development.

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAR 5 - 12)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Tax break proposed for Pooper Snoopers (3/8)**

Liverpool Mayor Joe Anderson would offer council tax forgiveness to citizens in exchange for incriminating evidence showing dog owners failing to stoop and scoop after their pets, saying it's a matter of "civil pride".

### **Angus Council runs campaign this month (3/8)**

Keep Scotland Beautiful's first partner in a national roadside litter prevention campaign is Angus Council. Using mascot, Wido, the snack bag, council tells drivers to take personal responsibility for keeping waste contained in vehicles, hoping this will put a dent in the £50,000 annual cost of chasing down 50 tonnes of litter a month. In March, lay-bys will be enhanced with bright, colourful bins and signs instilling the take-it-home code.

### **English town gets rolling with 'seeitpickitbinit' (3/6)**

Kettering's 2017 charity event *seeitpickitbinit* will enjoy its launch this weekend. It consists of more than 30 cleanup events around town between now and June.

### **Manila's smoking ban will help, says mayor (3/5)**

Let's hope Manila's mayor Joseph Estrada is right. Enforcing the city's smoking ban could lessen the litter epidemic associated with tobacco products, he said, in again pitching stricter adherence to the law which bars smoking in enclosed buildings and public places.