

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

June 18, 2017



Giving gull-proofing a go

Litter Free Coast and Sea/ Litter Free Dorset has a month-long [campaign](#) on the go in Weymouth to fight seagull attacks. [#Don'tFeedTheLocals](#) offers simple ways to discourage the aggressive, dirty birds.

No bag bans allowed here

A law proposed in Pennsylvania to negate any attempts across the state to ban or tax recyclable plastic bags passed in the Senate on Wednesday, but Governor Tom Wolf, a bill opponent, could still use his power to veto it.

New Zealand in the game

A tidy sum of \$1.7-million is being invested in New Zealand's coordinated national effort to cultivate awareness about tidiness. "Litter Less, Recycle More" will be the umbrella for the government's "Love NZ" and "Be A Tidy Kiwi" brands and will dovetail with the pre-existing "Do the Right Thing" program from Keep New Zealand Beautiful. Packaging Forum is a partner and will install new bins while promoting the recycling of soft plastics.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every year, more than 8 million tons of plastic end up in seas and rivers, causing 8 billion dollars in damages. So far, 20 countries have signed on with the United Nations Environment to help change this.

Costa Rica moves to protect more coastline

In step with the recent [UN Oceans Conference](#) Costa Rica [announced](#) a significant expansion of its protected coastal areas. Adding Cabo Blanco, 800 sq. km. in the Nicoya Gulf, increases the country's share of seas under conservation to 15.7% from 12.7%.

Seeking a global ban on single use plastic

#CleanSeas, UN Environment's pushback against ocean plastic contamination, calls for plastic reductions and an end to using micro plastics in cosmetics. The agency received an Avaaz petition bearing 1,000,000 signatures touting a ban on single use plastics by 2022.

Australian trailblazer mourned

Litter prevention expert and psychologist Karen Curnow, the co-author of the seminal book "[Litter-ology](#)", died suddenly June 8 at the age of 57 in Melbourne. She is survived by husband/writing partner Rob and sons, Fletcher and Lindsay. The family plans to establish a scholarship in Karen's name to honour her environmental legacy. *Litterland* extends condolences to the Curnow family.



KAREN SPEHR CURNOW
Co-wrote important book

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUN 11 - 18)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Inmates won't be litter picking much longer (6/11)

North Carolina will soon end its long held practice of using prison inmates to pick up roadside litter. A report found that a private contractor can do the job cheaper.

Sixty hours of community service in Texas (6/9)

The "Don't Mess With Texas" state is proposing a new tool in a judge's arsenal for dealing with those found guilty of littering: up to 60 hours of community service picking up litter or working in a recycling centre. If passed, the law could take effect September 1.

"Nip litter" - tiny bottles, big problem (6/8)

On June 13 a joint committee in Massachusetts held a public hearing to consider Republican State Rep. Randy Hunt's [bill](#) to place a redeemable 5-cent deposit on miniature liquor bottles, "nips", a growing litter type.

Young women excelling in the wrong area (6/13)

In the science behind the new state litter campaign, *Nobody Trashes Tennessee*, statistics revealed that 71 percent of females ages 16-34 self-identified as litterers, the highest of any demographic group. Men 16-34 described themselves as litterers 64 percent of the time.

Jamaican PM publicly decries littering (6/14)

Calling it a "cultural problem", Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness made a public plea for littering to stop.