

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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LITTER ON THE MENU (circa 1960)



This sign from an old-time, roadside burger stand promotes litter control as bars and eateries today could. The black arrow at lower left reminds: "Put waste paper in cans".

PHOTO: ALEX KING

The Litter Picker's Recipe for Success

"Pour 6 ounces of Coke from a plastic cup. Mix in three cigarette butts. Add a slice of pepperoni pizza. Stir in 3 tablespoons of water from a plastic bottle. Toss in some ATM and parking receipts. Add a Big Mac wrapper and fries. Don't forget ketchup and mayo packs..." So begins this little ditty penned by Boris Weinstein, of Pittsburgh, head of Citizens Against Litter and publisher of a monthly newsletter to inspire his movement, which is now 9,000+ strong and 10 years old, an enduring community success story. Website: www.citizensagainstlitter.org

DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2009 respectthemountains.com has run UK Enviro-Trek, a litter cleanup of European mountain destinations. Next events are upcoming June 16 and 23.

LITTER IDEA SWIRLS IN THE WINDY CITY

Fed up with people who litter the streets of Chicago, Alderman Howard Brookins wants up to \$1500 fines issued. "I don't want the money from people. I want people to stop the behavior," says the sponsor of the move to tougher fines for littering, which city council will consider later this month. How apt that a city known as "Windy" is carrying the litter prevention baton.

Artists and scientists go to Alaska on marine litter trek

On Friday an elite group of artists, scientists and educators began a weeklong expedition through Alaskan islands aboard R/V Norseman to study and collect marine litter and 2011 Japanese tsunami debris. It will become art for *The Gyre* touring exhibit to open in Anchorage in February 2014, showing works by 21 artists from six countries, among them Canadian photographer, Edward Burtynsky, of St. Catharines, Ontario. Anchorage Museum, and Alaska SeaLife Center are behind the trek, pulling together National Geographic, Ocean Conservancy and other big rudders on the eco-scene to make it happen. June 8th was World Oceans Day.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUNE 2 - 9)

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

Ontario introduces new Waste Reduction Act (6/6)

Bill 91, tabled this week in Ontario, is open for public comment until September 4. For info: 1-800-565-4923

Monterey Bay study fishes out dirt on litter (6/6)

Mind-numbing quantities of litter are revealed in an exhaustive study led by Kyra Schlining and just released by Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. It looked at 22 years of underwater Bay footage taken by MBARI submarines, and found 1,150 sightings of human-produced garbage as deep as two miles down, everything from a load of 10,000 steel-belted tires to volumes of plastic, accounting for one-third of all debris, half being plastic bags.

Basildon bails on privatization for litter (4/6)

A 1-year trial of privatized litter enforcement in Basildon, UK, has been cut short by 3 months, £36,027 in the hole.

Haringey smokers get a helping hand and a fine (3/6)

Health leaflets, free quit smoking clinics and £50 vouchers to help pay the fine is how Haringey, UK is dealing with people caught littering their cigarette butts. The town program enlists "neighbourhood action teams."

Pity the poor platypus, strangled by litter (5/6)

A rubber band, plastic ring and hair tie are responsible for three platypuses dying in the eastern creeks of Australia. The platypus is essential for eco-balance, serving as a water filter.