

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

July 13, 2014



Photos:
JAN DONOVAN

Beautiful Ireland

Good reports continue to flow in concerning Ireland's habitual attention to litter reduction. At left, a view of the verdant countryside, expansive clean shores and tidy, well-managed laneways. A recent study by the National Litter Monitoring Body showed some gains, but room for improvement in cities, which were found in some cases to be overstating their cleanliness rankings.

PLASTIC LITTER DOMINATES OCEANS

Plastic debris pollutes 88 per cent of Earth's ocean surfaces, says a new study from Spain's Malaspina science expedition that sampled 3,070 sites in 2010.

Irish concerts derailed?

GARTH BROOKS TOUR IN TROUBLE

Garth Brooks' comeback concerts at Croke Park may turn into his stay home tour. The American country music star cancelled his five back-to-back, sold-out concert nights at the soccer stadium after Dublin City Council would only approve three of them. As reported in *Litterland* in January, residents living next to the venue opposed the scope of the event. They said five straight nights of noise, traffic and litter generated by 400,000 fans would place them under siege. The cancellation struck a sour note with fans. They held a protest in Dublin on Saturday. A lesson here for concert promoters – get your city permit before you put tickets on the block. Brooks' camp called to "beg" Prime Minister Enda Kenny to restore all five gigs.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUL 6 – 13)

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

Chinese grate cleaners scour for butts (7/8)

In China, workers toil daily using bamboo sticks to pluck cigarette butts from stubborn spots like sidewalk grates.

A litter confessional on wheels (7/9)

Scotland's six-week road show to highlight a national drive to litter less asks people to spill their litter secrets in an interactive confession booth for a chance at prizes. The tour rolled into Dundee this past weekend.

Environmental crimes take front seat in Bolton (7/9)

A high-tech fleet of papaya-yellow trucks topped with CCTV cameras polices environmental crimes, part of Bolton, UK's no-nonsense take on anti-social behaviours.

Extreme makeover: Indian railway stations (7/9)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is allowing one year for a rigorous clean up of India's filthy railway stations. He said new funding and procedures would back the effort.

New move underfoot to get message out (7/8)

Using stencils, prominent messages about not littering are spray washed on the footpaths in parks in West Dunbartonshire to keep the matter in the public eye.

California dreamin' of zero butt waste

A consortium of California keeners builds awareness about tobacco littering problems via www.toxicbutts.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

The whimsical Underwater Music Festival in the Florida Keys July 13 promotes respect for clean oceans.

