

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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Island builder started as bottle-picker

The idea for an all-bottle-based island hit carpenter "Reishee" Sowa as he scraped by collecting bottles for cash in Mexico, after trading in his former life for a tropical lifestyle. His solar-powered Joyxee Island houses its own beach, a small banana grove, lemon, coconut, palm and almond trees and a garden for tomatoes and spinach. Hurricane Emily demolished Sowa's first structure, Spiral Island, in 2005. He hopes to sail this one around the world.

Nothing but news

Our news basket is overstuffed and it's time to unload, starting with this tidbit from India:

Vistasp Kharas is Mumbai's newest local hero and the official face of the city's planned anti-littering campaign. The Bandra architect, 44, was beaten by two men after challenging them over tossing an empty cola can from their BMW. His story grabbed local headlines, arrests ensued and now politicians want him to front their litter awareness efforts.

The U.S. Embassy has injected more dollars into Guyana's litter education for youths. An additional \$7,600 will add to the \$34,000 already invested in Guyana Shines: Keep Guyana Beautiful.

A plus for Pennsylvanians, their state will release \$1.4 million to Keep PA Beautiful for ideas that reduce litter and illegal dumping.

Camera-wearing enforcement officers are on the beat in Barnsley, UK for 12 months starting August 11. Body surveillance gear appears to be one of the most effective ways to gather evidence of littering and dog fouling. While not lacking detractors, these live eyes have been embraced by some town councils as a viable way to limit anti-social behaviours.

DID YOU KNOW?

Belarusian president Alexander Lukashenko has announced get-tough measures for littering, including confiscating cars as a last resort. On a recent tour he was disturbed by a "most terrible treatment of farmland."



This Mexican island paradise floats on hundreds of thousands of plastic bottles stuffed into fishing nets. Welcome To Joyxee Island, the realized dream of British artist Richart "Reishee" Sowa, who gave up job, family and possessions to build it. The project took him two-and-a-half years. It's a work in progress.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (AUG 10 - 17)

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

Japanese fans' tidiness may be contagious (12/8)

First Japanese soccer fans at the World Cup in Brazil were captured tidying the stands of litter in a photo that went viral in July. Last weekend Chinese fans of Guangzhou Evergrande FC took a kick at being seen to be clean. They cleared away litter from their stadium seats after the team's match against Jiangsu Guoxin Sainty FC.

Zeroing in on waste with grants in Scotland (16/8)

Scotland will bankroll community efforts that support its "Towards A Litter-Free Scotland" thrust. Zero Waste Scotland will administer £100,000 in government grants under the Litter and Flytipping Community Action Fund.

Chemical giant runs Environmental Boot Camp (16/8)

A corps of 350 youth leaders and teachers from Wesley Methodist Schools in Kuala Lumpur graduated as green ambassadors from a training program funded by chemical giant MPMA-Chevron Phillips Chemicals.

'May I Help You' squad has two prongs (16/8)

New Delhi has deployed 50 trained guards as friendly tourist guides, who double as enforcers. Armed with whistles, walkie-talkies and the right set of soft skills, they help visitors and also police people who sully the city.