

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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BIG BUTTS IN LONDON, UK

At left, ever the innovator, Keep Britain Tidy unleashes giant cigarette butts around a WW II monument. London is running with this anti-littering campaign to illustrate that strewn butts denigrate and disrespect public property.



The Japanese try to separate and recycle everything, right down to the chopsticks (above). This demonstrates a greater respect for shared space, doing the right thing, beauty and honour.

★★ AMERICAN STATE LITTER SCORECARD ★★
Steve Spacek is a man on a mission. Compiler of the American Litter Scorecard, he tracks and ranks states by degrees of cleanliness and filth based on data. What a find for anti-litter mavens like us! Find it on Facebook or at litterscorecard.bellstrike.com/

Litterland's Heroes and Zeroes

If we had a scoreboard, it would light up every week with new winners and losers.

Washington, DC, for example, registers a win for all the publicity its clampdown on littering is receiving. Tasmania can feel somewhat the hero and a little less dirty for digging itself out of last place on Australia's Litter Index. Queensland is the goat there: least tidy, and now must work hard to improve. Everyday heroes are people who write letters to newspapers and complain on talk radio about litter. We award this week's fattest zero to the couple who used a Florida beach to launch golf balls into the Gulf of Mexico. When accosted they said they did not intend to retrieve the 15 balls, but would leave them in the water for kids to find and sell. Another beachgoer (hero) complained to the press and voiced concern to environment officials.

DID YOU KNOW?

People who litter are called "litter bugs", "litter louts", "tossers", "fly tippers" and "grubs" depending on where you live.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (SEP 7 - 14)

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

Mobile's tough-talking mayor gets trashy (10/9)

Visiting Mobile, Alabama? After October 1 it will be expensive to litter there, warns Mayor Sandy Stimpson, a minimum \$250 plus \$191 in court costs, under a new ordinance of fines that can increase by the day.

Maryland considers polystyrene-free state (10/10)

Maryland's bill this week to ban litter-prone polystyrene foam statewide landed with a shrug. Retailers say they would simply convert to paper-based packaging.

Baghdad wants littering to stop (8/9)

Littering appeared on the agenda in war-torn Iraq. Baghdad municipality announced it wants to fine people who throw garbage in the streets.

Eastern Europe: Georgian President aghast (7/9)

Orders from the top to stop littering from Georgian President Irakli Garabashvili appear to be filtering down. Since calling for "maximum penalties" on Sept. 5, the environment ministry has produced a strategy to fight litter.

Council and police cooperate: No under-rug sweeping (9/9)

Fremantle District Council has found a fantastic partnership with police for dealing with fledgling anti-social crimes before they become larger community problems.