

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

June 30, 2013

OH-OH, OBAMA LITTER!

US right wingers loved Amy Harder's photo of litter left behind after US President Barack Obama's speech Tuesday at Georgetown U. His topic? The environment.



Experts: The litter fairy does not exist

A sign in an English town reminds one and all that litter does not magically disappear. "Help!" the sign says. "Sadly, the litter fairy does not exist, so please help us keep Harrogate looking good for both visitors and residents by cleaning up your litter before you go home. Thank you!"



FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR, SIZE MATTERS: STUDY

A new study may help to shed light on why some people are more prone to littering. And it concludes size does matter! Research from four leading US business schools, led by Andy Yap, of MIT, says expansive physical settings, such as a big desk, car seat or office space can spawn a dishonest person who's more ready to cheat, speed and steal than most. Seems these trappings give subjects a feeling of power and of being above the law. www.andyjap.com

Camera Images Tell a Litter Story

Pitch an item out your apartment window in the Philippines and odds are the act won't go unnoticed. A woman was arrested this week based on footage from the high-powered cameras trained on buildings for the purpose of catching people who litter.

BRITAIN'S BILLION POUND PROBLEM

Despite a deep axe to its public funding in recent years, Keep Britain Tidy's just-released report targets Members of Parliament. "Which Side of the Fence are You on?" makes a strong financial case for caring about litter. Annual cleanup costs have now topped £1 billion in the UK, enough tax dollars to pay for 38,644 social workers, 4,400 libraries or 33,200 nurses, the report says. www.keepbritaintidy.org

DID YOU KNOW?

Starting in October 2014 Scots will pay retailers at least 5-pence each for plastic bags in a bid to reduce the use of "a highly visible aspect of litter", says the nation's environment secretary. Scotland uses more plastic bags per person than anywhere else in the UK - 750 million a year.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUNE 23 - 30)

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

Dunkin' Donuts (25/6)

After a successful pilot at five of its locations in February, Dunkin' Donuts will offer foam cup recycling in all its company-operated stores by the end of 2013. Meanwhile, it will look to switch away from lightweight, litter-prone polystyrene foam beverage cups altogether.

Auto-lock wheels will stop shopping cart dumping (28/6)

Ipswich, Australia is the first city in Queensland to make retailers implement an automatic wheel lock system on shopping carts, if they have more than 20 of them, at a cost of \$45 each. A wire around the perimeter detects when a cart is being rolled off the property and locks one its wheels, which only the retailer can unlock. Smaller retailers are also expected to control their trolleys or face fines of up to \$5,500 if they go astray more than twice.

Plastic bags in Vietnam a concern and a headache (24/6)

In Ho Chi Minh City, nine million plastic bags are dispensed each day. Officials say littered bags are choking canals in two districts - Binh Tan and Thu Duc.

A litterbag in every car from Avis in UAE (24/6)

AVIS Rent-A-Car has pledged to put the locally made CarBag for litter in all its vehicles in the United Arab Emirates as part of the nation's Keep It Clean campaign. www.keepitclean.me