

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

August 18, 2013

HAIL, SCOTLAND!

Roads and railways are the target of Zero Waste Scotland's first Litter Week of Action August 19-25. This is a nation pulling out all stops to triumph over littering prior to hosting two world-class sporting events in 2014. But, in London, 4000 Scottish football fans left ten thousand empty beer cans in the two tons of litter they deposited in Trafalgar Square Wednesday after a match at Wembley Stadium. The mess took ten hours and an overnight crew of 20 to clean up. P.S. Scotland lost the game 3-2.

BYE-BYE BINS

In June Wareham, Massachusetts ushered in its new "carry in, carry out" litter policy, posting 40 signs, removing trash bins and strictly enforcing fines of up to \$500.



PARADE LITTER DOWN, FLOATS TOO

Not as many floats took part as a result, but new rules to control litter at an annual floral parade in Davao appear to be working. This year's Pamulak Kadayawan, showcasing the abundant vegetation of the Filipino region, lost 25 participants, disenchanted with restrictions and bans aimed at removing litter temptations - no fireworks, poppers, skimpy outfits, acrobatics, throwing candies or any giveaways to crowds. Floats numbered 64 compared to 89 in 2012.

DID YOU KNOW?

The European Environment Agency has a new mobile app called Marine Litter Watch for ecology groups and "citizen scientists" to report litter they see on beaches for EEA's report on the marine environment, to include litter, due in the fall, 2014. www.eea.europa.eu/highlights



Gainesville makes gains
Stickers that say, "Don't flick it" ignite the fires of Gainesville's litter fighters, fueled by a Keep America Beautiful grant and kindled by committed folks in Alachua, Florida. Ashtrays and education reinforce a fact many smokers disbelieve: Butts are litter.



PHOTO: Above, a Chicago sign. The city's mayor has given his support to new \$1500 fines for littering, but will they work? A final council vote is still to come. (Editor's note - the slogan at the bottom says "If you", not "F you".)

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (AUG 11 - 18)

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

- British government wages war on wheelie bins** (16/8)
Builders will have to devise a way to discreetly conceal and contain outdoor waste bins in future. British lawmakers have declared war on "bin blight", litter the new tactic aims to curb.
- Rocking in Rio for Brazil's zero litter movement** (15/8)
A major rock concert, Lixo No Lixo, is the latest entity to embrace Rio de Janeiro's zero litter thrust as part of the festival's For A Better World mandate. Litter laws passed earlier this summer begin in earnest August 20.
- Ontario bill could hurt curbside recycling**
Pay attention to Bill 91, the Waste Reduction Act the Ontario government has proposed. How Canada's largest province recycles is at stake. Cutoff date for comments is Sept. 4. Inherently flawed, the proposed law ignores litter entirely.
- Litterbugs to be caught on camera here** (30/7)
Visitors to Logan, AU can take a cue from the CCTV cameras and signs posted that say: "Litter bugs should take this as a warning - someone will be watching and you will get caught."
- Warden abuse reported during litter clampdown** (17/8)
Litter law enforcement officers in Havant Borough, UK say they face serious abuse while on duty. Litterers will storm off or lash out with verbal abuse, spitting and profane tirades - no bodily harm yet. The crackdown on tobacco and other litter continues.