

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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Hong Kong has new bins

Their openings are smaller. Their warnings are larger. Hong Kong hopes its newly designed 130-litre waste bins are just right. They bear cartoon graphics of a trash bag dumped beside a bin. The caption reads, "Discarding refuse at side of the litter container will be prosecuted." Another shows refuse atop a bin and cautions, "Dumping litter on the top of litter container is liable to a fine of \$1500." Hong Kong has cut the number of bins by 15 per cent without compromising street cleanliness, says the [Food & Environmental Hygiene Department](#).



FISHY ART

At left, an art piece made from materials discarded in the Thames is the work of UK artist Michelle Reader.

Port of London Authority and the Cleaner Thames Campaign supplied her with litter pulled from the Thames River at Gravesend as material for a mind-expanding sculpture.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES SAYS 'STOP'

Surf City, North Carolina posts a roving stop sign on beaches, a reminder that reads, "STOP leaving trash on the beach."

Private enforcers call the cops

Litter enforcement has its hazards. According to Wrexham Council member David Bithell, private litter officers have sought police protection on several occasions since they began implementing the crackdown in the North Wales town. Some people get aggressive when challenged over their littering and the £75 instant penalty. But the number being fined is falling. There were 405 fines dispensed in May, 630 in April.

Kanye West messes up

Maybe pop-up concerts by big name celebrities aren't the greatest idea. After rapper Kanye West backed out of a planned impromptu appearance in New York due to overcrowding, fans vandalized lampposts and littered city streets. Maybe stars should pay when their stunts result in damage.

DID YOU KNOW?

Proclaiming plastic the enemy of the forest, custodians of the treasured Ukrainian forests of Transcarpathia have called on visitors to be their eyes and have camera phones ready to snap and send them photos of vacationers littering the forest. In this instant image-obsessed world, foresters should have no problem encouraging people to train their devices on litterbugs in the forest. [Story here.](#)

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUNE 5 - 12)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Vineland's feeds community pride with van (6/7)

Anyone engaged in outdoor clean-ups knows what a help it is to have equipment, supplies and transportation lined up. Vineland, New Jersey will provide an outfitted 5'x9' van to groups organizing such tasks. This week the Community Pride Trailer was unveiled as the city's latest tool for spreading the litter prevention message.

Sidewalk art sends a message #Street2Sea (6/8)

Aimed at youth, 'clean artist' Paul "Moose" Curtis helped Keep Britain Tidy take its message to the street, literally. Power washing over his dramatic sea animal stencils, he creates eye-opening, eco-friendly sidewalk art outside busy King's Cross Station in London for #Street2Sea. It's to aid people in making the connection between land litter and its impact on oceans and marine life. Grocery chain Lidl backs the program with funding from the plastic bag fee it collects.

Irish city sticking with the national plan (6/11)

Thanks to industry funding for the Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT) in Ireland, Drogheda has seen the percentage of people who litter chewing gum drop to 11 per cent, down from 26 per cent in 2007. Mayor Cllr. Paul Bell called on citizens to "bin your gum when you're done", the 2016 tag line for the nation's continuing attack on the always problematic littering of sticky, stubborn chewed gum. GLT funding is assured until end-2017.