

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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## [Drones across the desert in Dubai](#)

In April we reported that Dubai would use drones as a new tool for catching campers who dump garbage in Dubai deserts or litter beaches. Now the idea is really flying. One drone is in use in Al Khawaneej and more are on order. Cameras identify locations and vehicle plate numbers that aid officials in nabbing litterbugs and fining them. Dubai hosted the international trade show, Middle East Cleaning Technology Week, Nov. 13-15.

Think you know something about roadside litter? Then take the [Tie Down Test](#), another innovation from Western AU.



## Roadhouses on the road to success

To the litter-aware and wise West Australia seems to attract a hotbed of really cool ideas, not the least of which is the partnership among Keep Australia Beautiful, 15 roadhouses and three automobile clubs to cut down littering on highways. Since kicking off as a six-month pilot in July, roadhouses have given away 200,000 complimentary car litter bags. Fingers crossed, the giveaway and companion communication efforts - bin stickers and road signs - will pay off. Results will be tabulated in December for release early in 2017. The car clubs do clean ups and audits along the three highways involved in the trial.

## Australians sorting it out

Keep Australia Beautiful WA reports on the 175 kg cache cleared from Scout Park Beach during a recent one-hour clean up of Cocos Keeling Islands. A group of 35 volunteers collected and sorted an inventory of trash including 102 cigarette lighters, 658 plastic lids, 1610 fragments of plastic, 70 pieces of foam, 109 glass bottles and 737 thongs. Project leader Samantha Culbertson says information from the audit will go to [Tangaroa Blue](#), the Australian Marine Debris Initiative.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The right bin can mean less litter and fewer waste trucks on the roads. This is one of the points made to mayors by Paul Cusack, a bin expert from Bin Screens Creative in Newmarket, Queensland, AU. His [website](#) offers a [checklist](#) of tips for getting the best bang for your bin. He says he routinely emails free litter information to heads of local councils and feels his messages are having an effect.

## HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (NOV 13 - 20)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### Texans give themselves a medal (11/16)

The iconic and much-vaunted Don't Mess With Texas program is celebrating its success with a medallion available for sale on its [website](#).

### Pigeon-girl court case proceeding (11/16)

A magistrate has begun hearing a littering case and must decide whether a girl who fed a chip to a pigeon will have to pay the stiff fine. The town argues, unlike birdseed, a fried potato is "human food" and thus is litter if left behind. In this case, the bird ate the evidence.

### Littergram inventor off the hook (11/16)

Do-gooder UK businessman Danny Lucas can continue using the name Littergram for his litter photo-sharing app used in Tonbridge & Malling. Facebook said the name was too much like Instagram and had threatened court action, but backed off this week. Lucas put £250,000 into his app.

### City budget proposes hiring a hit squad (11/13)

Peterborough, UK will soon vote on whether to spend £72,000 on a two-person "hit squad" for litter enforcement.

### Fife combing the world for what works (11/16)

The Glenrothes area of Fife, Scotland has two councillors going to bat for it. Ross Vettraino wants a war on "environmental vandals." John Wincott asks to hear from anyone in the world that has solutions to littering that work.