

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

September 29, 2013

Toronto ponders expansion of smoking bans in public places

A medical officer's proposal to ban smoking at Toronto beaches, parks and outdoor patios may win approval Monday from the city's Board of Health. Litter prevention advocate Sheila White will be at the meeting asking members to deal with tobacco litter as part of any expanded smoke-free strategy. White says a report should look at tobacco litter and issues such as the provision of ashtrays, education and enforcement in tandem with the smoking ban. Otherwise the policy risks adding to the prolific amount of cigarette butts already littering city streets, White says.

Is there magic in Waltham Forest?

A precedent-setting local council in North East London won a landmark court ruling Sept. 20 and became the first county in England to successfully prosecute for spitting in public. Magistrates agreed with Waltham Forest that spitting is littering and dispensed several £300 fines. The decision supports a strict new bylaw and enforcement measures and takes a two-pronged poke at "litter louts".



COOL BINS - At left, Changi Airport in Singapore boasts some of the world's most creative recycling bins. (Photo: Dr. Ross Headfen)

SINGAPORE is contemplating empowering private residential building managers to ticket for littering and steer the maximum \$200 fines into the building's fund.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (SEP 22 - 29)

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

Anti-Littering Campaign starts Tuesday in Malaysia (9/27)

Teams will move through Subang Jaya neighbourhoods in coming weeks looking for litter infractions and issuing compound fines, using a Mobile Counter to tabulate findings.

Falkirk kids sing 'Pick It Up' and hit YouTube (9/24)

Falkirk Council's video equivalent to warm and fuzzy just hit YouTube. Cherubic students sing and pick up litter, hoping Scotland will 'pick up' on their musical message. Adorable.

Gull-proof bags are anything but (9/23)

Deemed a failure, those seagull-proof bags tested in Blankenberge, Belgium are definitely for the birds. Gulls rip through the substantial sacks with ease, a study concluded.

Ontario examines first industry steward plans (9/22)

Makers of batteries, paints & coatings, pesticides & solvents and non-alcoholic, non-dairy beverages are the first four Ontario industry groups to seek approval for doing their own recycling. Industry Steward Plans (ISP) are new to the province. The public has until December to comment on them.

EU launches marine litter consultations (9/27)

The European Union is poised to set its firm target for reducing marine litter and is open to feedback from the public until December 18. ENV-MARINE-LITTER-TARGET@ec.europa.eu



PHOTO: PAT KOABEL

THIS BIN SAYS 'USE ME!'

Out to contain fast food litter McDonald's and German waste hauler BSR partnered to provide bins like this one (at left) in Berlin. Clean, visible and accessible bins invite more use. Take-away restaurants have a duty to address product litter.

Pictured at right, a Bob's burger



DID YOU KNOW?

Brazilian restaurant chain Bob's took a meaningful bite out of litter early in 2013 by serving its burgers in an edible paper wrapping during a special promotion. The company said no wrappers were tossed.