

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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The UK's Marine Conservation Society, a leader in campaigns against litter pollution in the oceans, has a renewed rallying cry: "[Stop the plastic tide](#)". Pronouncing 2018 as the year to go plastic-free - no more drink cups, plastic cutlery, straws, plastic bottles, lids and stirrers - there's an [online petition](#) to sign.



[UN pledges to attack ocean plastics](#)

Two hundred nations meeting in Nairobi backed a United Nations Environment Assembly resolution to "prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution." Marine plastic was deemed "a planetary crisis" in dire need of legally binding agreements, not just words on paper.

[Merchants duck Kenya's bag ban](#)

To circumvent Kenya's ban on plastic carrier bags, traders are bootlegging them in an underground economy, tripling the price of bags and impeding the government's attempt to stop usage. As of August 29, anyone caught using a plastic bag can be fined or even jailed. Black marketers try to sell only to people they know. Still, 20 arrests have been made so far.



#TheLastStraw, launched by Litter Free Coast & Sea Dorset and East Devon just in time for Christmas, encourages people, stores and restaurants to "#stopsucking" and to "ditch or switch" -- stop using plastic straws altogether or change to a reusable type. See the [website](#).

[Bridge over troubled waters tackled](#)

Peterborough County, a region of cottage country in southern Ontario, voted to spend \$27,000 for a private security firm to enforce a new trespassing bylaw introduced to stop marine and shore littering along the causeway that crosses Chemong Lake.

[Winning youth videos on view](#)

Creative videos from the "It's My City: Litter PSA Contest" in Marion County, Indianapolis were celebrated this week with cash going to the top three schools and NFL tickets for first prize-winning Perry Meridian Environmental Club. View the public's winning picks: [First](#), [second](#) and [third](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

The UK and USA throw away 550 million plastic straws a day. Plastic straws are one of the top 10 items picked up at beach cleans worldwide.

Source: Litter Free Coast & Sea UK

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 3 - 10)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Kids' movie star is a litterbug, says TV host [\(12/5\)](#)

Well-known UK television host and litter crusader Kirstie Allsopp has found a new litterbug to target: children's fictional movie character, Paddington Bear, who is depicted chucking toffee apple wrappers in his latest film, "Paddington 2."

Three options for dealing with dog poop [\(12/5\)](#)

On Thursday the Communities Scrutiny Panel in Grimsby, UK will choose one of three options for dealing with the town's dog dirt dilemma. 1) use an existing enforcement team that's already very busy 2) create a dedicated team of three enforcement officers at a yearly cost of £84,000 or 3) hire a private company.

Parade litter aftermath prompts a rethink [\(12/5\)](#)

Keep Odessa Beautiful is saying 'oops' after parade-goers left a gigantic mess behind them at the Parade of Lights event. Next year, organizers plan to distribute free litter bags to the crowd and install more bins.

Confusion over what to flush creates havoc [\(12/4\)](#)

As litter volumes grow in Scotland, so does SRD, or sewage related debris, up 40% on Scottish beaches compared to 2016 because people keep flushing forbidden items. Wet wipe contamination was up 141%.

Nothing up in the air about stand on balloons [\(12/8\)](#)

Neath Port Talbot Council became Number 20 of 22 Welsh municipalities to ban the polluting release of balloons and sky lanterns to support the Marine Conservation Society's "[Don't Let Go](#)" campaign.