

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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Merry Christmas



"All I want for Christmas is a pristine scene."

Best holiday wishes from Sheila White

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

Publisher of *This Week In "Litterland"*

Thank you, readers!

I appreciate those of you who care about litter, take steps to eradicate it, set the example. You personify the gold standard for litter prevention. You follow the two cardinal rules. 1) you bin your waste and 2) you will pick up after others who don't. Thank you for being at the top of what I call the Anti-litter Spectrum. The next rung down from you is for the person who doesn't litter, but refuses to pick up after someone else, which sadly makes them a contributor to the littering cycle through complicity. Next we cross the line into anti-social territory. At this level a person will litter, but will pick up when confronted. At the lowly bottom of the heap sits the person who litters and doesn't care, will never pick up. If levels 2, 3, and 4 could be encouraged to move up one notch we'd be on our way to seeing the littering

DID YOU KNOW?

Refuse is [polluting Zandvlei estuary](#) in Cape Town. Vandals keep breaking the litter traps. Along with its plan to construct better litter traps the city wants "upstream intervention" to prevent litter from entering the canals.

Did private police litter in Thanet?

Thanet Council is investigating after photos surfaced appearing to show private litter enforcement officers from Kingdom Security littering their cigarette butts after a smoke break in a car park laneway. Kingdom is contracted by a number of local councils in the UK to watch for and ticket people who litter. Council cabinet member Rev Stuart Piper received pictures taken by a citizen. In one officers are seen congregating and smoking in Mill Lane in Margate. Another shot showed the laneway full of butts. A council spokesperson said the complaint is being taken seriously.

Holiday trash can take away the magic

When the party mood takes over, the holiday spirit swirls and festivals abound, don't let good habits fly out the window. That is the message from ecology groups like EcoWaste Coalition, a group in Manila constantly lobbying for Filipino public action and awareness. [In Namibia](#) the environment minister, Pohamba Shifeta, reminded holiday travellers not to litter. He said the nation is at risk of losing its reputation as one of Africa's cleanest countries. For decades the city of Windhoek held the record for being the cleanest on the continent.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 17 - 24)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Council gets caravan crackdown order [\(12/21\)](#)

North Kesteven District Council has won a high court injunction allowing it to ban "travellers" from an area of Lincolnshire where the nomadic trailer campers had left a mess in the past - human waste, abandoned caravans, litter, tires and garbage.

People who litter campsites spoil it for all [\(12/22\)](#)

Dubai announced a ban on camping at Al Qudra Lake due to littering and misuse of the grounds. Tired of the near 40-tonnes of litter left behind to be picked up each weekend at the bird and animal reserve, officials also barred barbecues, bonfires and dog walking.

No more lanterns in the sky due to risk [\(12/21\)](#)

At the urging of an animal charity, Flintshire's cabinet in Wales approved a ban on sky lantern releases.

City prepares for India's national rankings [\(12/20\)](#)

Bathinda, India is writing up littered shops and homes, handing out challans (fixed penalty notices) and trying to look better before the Swachhta Survey begins on Jan. 4 to measure and rank every city's cleanliness.

Message in a bottle among the river litter [\(12/19\)](#)

Mary James spends time in her kayak picking litter from Cornwall's Truro River in Malpas. Among the detritus, vast and overwhelmingly plastic, a message in a bottle.