

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

[www.litterpreventionprogram.com](http://www.litterpreventionprogram.com)

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## Swedish "plogging" an emerging trend?

Let's hope that a trend showing up in Stockholm, Sweden becomes the next worldwide meme. "Plogging", a blend of jogging and picking up litter, is the latest buzzword coined by environmentalist Erik Ahlström to describe his new fitness regimen. He started equipping jogging groups with garbage bags and gloves and got them picking up litter on the go. The activity seems to be growing in popularity, according to a Core77 news report. See #plogging on Instagram. Put a global plogging explosion on our wish list for 2018. Any chance it might catch on with the same fervour as a fidget spinner? Ahlström was driven to the idea after noting his city looked like a dump. "Det ser ju ut som en soptipp."

## County is taking its show on the road

Wiltshire UK will take a road show to six locations Feb. 12 - 20 to drum up enthusiasm for the Great

British Spring Clean. Landmarc Support Services is underwriting the cost of the #CleanWilts tour. Information will prompt individuals and businesses to consider actions they will take to prevent litter. The goal is to erase the need to spend £2.5million a year on cleaning up litter in the county.

## Pay a tray deposit at cafeterias

Two food courts in Singapore are the first to implement an automated tray return system. At Marsiling Mall Hawker Centre and Bukit Merah Hawker Centre customers pay 50 cents and \$1 per tray taken, respectively. Underway since December the move is an attempt by government to upgrade the food service profession by promoting cleanliness, efficiency, and more gracious behaviour in customers. Tray Return Stations are planned for 25 of the 114 hawker centres managed or overseen by the National Environmental Agency. Deposits are refunded at the tray stations and automation takes over washing the trays, dishes and cutlery for reuse.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Eco-glitter is being touted as a substitute for the polyethylene variety that typically showers down on occasions like Mardi Gras. Companies like Wild Glitter, Eco Glitter Fun and Glo Tatts make glittering non-plastic, vegan products that cannot harm the environment with microbeads, says an article in [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com).



Left, credit student Gordon Fitzgerald for this clever use of a plastic military figurine to depict the war on litter. His image had the hero holding a litter picking tool and a replica garbage bag, ready to tackle a flyaway apple core and banana peel.

## Purely academic

Savannah State University, Georgia's oldest institution of higher learning, is exploring what it can do to reduce littering on campus.

## HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JAN 28 - FEB 11)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### 'Scum of the earth' comment aimed at litterers [\(2/7\)](#)

Hull UK Councillor Alan Clark didn't mince words when he urged the public to report litterbugs. He called people who drop litter "the scum of the earth". He wants people to collect and send photo evidence of littering using their dash cams, helmet cameras and smartphones.

### 'No' to litter app a disappointment in Angus [\(2/7\)](#)

A community group in Angus had hoped council would embrace a popular litter reporting and tracking app, FixMyStreet Pro. The request from Angus Communities Through the Lens was rejected due to lack of funds.

### Garbage cans at drive-thrus a suggested law [\(2/5\)](#)

Councillor Sam Merulla in Hamilton, Ontario generated a good idea by proposing that all drive-thru restaurants be required by law to install trash cans as a way to deal with their "corporate problem".

### Litter-picking dog could teach a lesson [\(2/8\)](#)

File this one under cute pet tricks of the environmentally responsible kind: Scott Jacob trained Murphy, 8, his German shepherd, Australian shepherd and heeler mix, to find and fetch litter on their daily walks.

### Mandatory community service eyed [\(2/6\)](#)

Zimbabwe is moving toward mandatory community service sentencing for litterbugs, environment minister Oppah Muchinguri-Kashiri announced on February 3.