

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

August 5, 2018

Japan 2020 Olympics to put eye on litter

Tokyo will be looking to turn in a gold medal-winning performance for the environment when it hosts the Summer Olympic Games in 2020, says Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike, the country's former environment minister. On July 23 Koike told Reuters news agency she sees the event as a way to advance a sustainability theme to the world, particularly for the curtailment of plastic pollution. Japan, whose sports fans draw positive, global attention for cleaning up their seats before leaving the stadium at events like the World Cup of soccer, wants to be a world leader in environmental sustainability, Koike said. Tokyo passed a tough anti-smoking law last month that will effectively ban smoking in most of the city's bars and restaurants in the run-up to the Games. The International Olympic Committee has voiced a keen desire for the Tokyo Games to be the first to be 'tobacco-free', a tall order in a country where Japanese Tobacco Inc is an industry titan. Tokyo's plan could entail avoiding single use plastics and having a litter discouragement strategy.



Aberdeen, Scotland tracks its littering enforcement actions and reports them to the public. The issuance of penalty notices has spiralled downward from 891 in 2012/2013 to 141 in 2017/18 and only 38 this year to date. Almost half of the ticketed offenders never pay their fines.

Melbourne gets jump on World Clean Up Day

The team of BeachPatrol and Love Our Street in Melbourne, AU hopes to harness hundreds to come out on Sat., Sept. 15 to clean up the city's central business district on World Clean Up Day. Bottles and cans collected will be counted and photographed to demonstrate the real need for a Container Deposit Scheme in Victoria in the lead-up to the state election. Victoria is the only mainland state without deposit-return.



TIPS FOR REDUCING BUSINESS LITTER

- ◇ Include litter education in employee training and incorporate litter prevention strategies into regular employee tasks.
- ◇ Engage your employees; ask for their input.
- ◇ Provide convenient trash, ash and recycling receptacles at "transition points" to give customers a proper disposal option.
- ◇ Don't forget receptacles for employee break areas as well. **Source: Newport News**

DID YOU KNOW?

Self-described "green mountaineers" from Peking University have set out to clean up the northern face of trash-laden Mount Everest. A group of 14 of them photograph and pick up litter, 70 to 80 per cent of it cans and bottles.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUL 22 - AUG 5)

Some of what made our News Reel recently

- Coca-Cola adds sweetener at UK amusements (8/1)**
Beverage maker Coca-Cola, in consort with theme park owner/operator Merlin, will give out half-price attraction tickets for the return of empty 500 ml Coke containers to special reverse vending machines at four UK resorts.
- City hopes litter grates will work great (7/26)**
Decatur, Georgia is investing \$50,000 in grates that stop litter from infiltrating drains at 90 flooding hot spots.
- Plastic-free store opens in UK (7/26)**
Taunton, England has its first plastic-free shop. Lesser Litter opened on Paul Street July 28 selling food and home goods by weight in customer-supplied containers.
- KNZB launches its new online resource (8/5)**
Keep New Zealand Beautiful has launched an online info kiosk - The National Litter Hub, formed after a survey found 59 per cent of New Zealanders surveyed had problems finding out about litter fines and policies and 48 per cent were uncertain about recycling and disposal rules as they travel across the country. www.litter.org.nz
- Fines on way up, council wastes no time (7/26)**
Now that the national [government has given](#) the green light to higher fines locally, Wigan in Manchester, UK announced an increase in October to £120 from £80. As well, town council may delegate enforcement powers more broadly to other employee groups.