

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

October 21, 2018

Scottish know-how

The Chamber of Commerce in Laurinburg is banking that Scotland Pride can emulate the success of the iconic Don't Mess With Texas anti-litter brand. It is sponsoring a [six-day competition](#) to find the most prodigious litter picking team. The team that collects the most litter by weight as determined at recycling centre weigh stations will win a trophy and bragging rights.



Some Irish eyes are smiling

Fermoy has emerged as Ireland's tidiest town and home to "an almost complete absence of litter". The summer 2018 rankings by An Taisce saw improvements to some of the 40 competing towns - 77 per cent of them were deemed acceptably clean. But inner city sections of Dublin, Galway and Cork proved to be tough trouble spots and more littered than last year. The annual nationwide contest is run by IBAL, Irish Business Against Litter. Judges noted a worrying trend toward higher litter volumes and more blight in areas of cities hurting from the pride-sapping disadvantages of poverty and high unemployment.

Free litter bins for helpful Philly groups

Philadelphia is massaging its litter law to make it possible for residents to have more litter bins situated on city sidewalks if they promise to look after them and empty them regularly. A watched bin tends to draw fewer abuses than an 'anonymous' one, city official said.

Developmentally disabled people are part of the solution to littering here

People with developmental disabilities have won a small contract to remove litter from five parks in Lake Charles, Louisiana. They receive a stipend and are supervised by the group Calcasieu Association for Retarded Citizens.

50-year old litter shows its ugly face

A trash relic has washed up in Formby on a Freshfield beach in Merseyside, UK. A woman volunteering at a cleanup was stunned to find a half-century-old wrapper from Golden Wonder Crisps turn up in the sand along with a candy packet also from the 1960s fully intact. National Trust Formby posted photos on Facebook to illustrate how long plastic hangs around.

No litter plan as Canada legalizes pot
Marijuana smokers in Canada lit up legally for the first time on Wednesday as cannabis became a licit drug across the nation. Reported as a new litter type in places where pot is already legal, *Litterland* is watching the Toronto ground closely to see if weed filters and baggies begin showing up in audits. Unfortunately, in the lead-up to legalization, the government missed an opportunity to talk about the proper disposal of smoking-related litter and to set requirements for anti-litter messaging on product packaging.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (OCT 14 - 21)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Fishing for Litter makes big haul [\(10/15\)](#)

Anglers on the high seas working with the volunteer group Fishing for Litter pulled in 190 tonnes of junk in three years operating from 90 vessels out of 11 ports in Ireland. Christmas trees and motorcycles were among items retrieved in their nets.

Dry run at former 'cesspool' Boracay Beach [\(10/16\)](#)

After closing April 26 for becoming too trashy, a beach in Boracay has begun a 10-day trial to see if people can behave now that a thorough cleansing has been completed and more and better bins are in place. If all goes well, an official reopening is planned for Oct. 26.

Operation Fresh Start in Baton Rouge [\(10/17\)](#)

Baton Rouge mayor president Sharon Weston Blome has initiated Operation Fresh Start a quarterly routine of aggressive cleaning, debris, tree and weed removal. She announced October's results on Wednesday.

Prominent clean up advocate passes away [\(10/18\)](#)

Clean Up Australia founder Ian Kiernan has died at the age of 78. He ran his first big event in Sydney in 1989.

An idea fit for any neighbourhood [\(10/20\)](#)

A nifty exercise from Nissa Salas Fitness in Dallas, TX is called "30-30-30". On the 30th of the month groups of 30 volunteers spend 30 minutes picking up litter, "putting the pleasant back into Pleasant Grove".

DID YOU KNOW?

Bin it! a chewing gum litter education program funded by Mars/Wrigley UK and others marks its 12th year of touring across Ireland, visiting 463 schools and 51,101 students since 2006. In 2017, gum as a percentage of total litter fell to 8%, a drop of seven points over the previous year.