THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

<u>litterpreventionprogram.com</u>

April 14, 2019



Luxembourg's new campaign slogan translates in English to mean "litter can be deadly, don't throw it away in nature." The graphic replicates a crime scene. It depicts the outline of a dead bird's body on a sidewalk. Chewing gum and cigarettes sit at its centre, where the bird's stomach would be.

Group collects and counts butts

The City of Hamilton will host the grand finale Butt Blitz, a month-long event being run by <u>A Greener Future</u>, a litter-dedicated, not-for-profit in Ontario. From April 1 - 26 volunteers will be picking up cigarette butts and counting them, aiming to bag 1000 of them per neighbourhood. The grand blitz in Hamilton on April 27 is happening in partnership with the city. All butts will be sent to TerraCycle for recycling into industrial-grade plastic items. Cigarette filters are made of plastic (cellulose) and, used, they are chemical-laced. They do not biodegrade and should never be littered. It doesn't take long to find 1000 butts. Click <u>here</u> to register.

San Antonio parade gives medals

If you want them to feel good about keeping a parade route clean, give them a medal. That's the philosophy this year at the Fiesta Parade in San Antonio, TX. Parade-goers receive two paper bags to fill with bottles and cans. Those who do can redeem the bags for a free, light-up Fiesta medal. About one million people attend the event.

DID YOU KNOW?

A groundbreaking new, interactive website about marine litter <u>is being developed</u> by digital agency, Connect, in Liverpool, working under agreement with the University of the Highland and Islands.

Human waste could flow in Alaska

Climate change has caused a thawing human waste problem on Alaska's Kahiltna Glacier north of Anchorage. Human waste frozen in latrines that were buried in the 1970s has begun to thaw with the glacial melt. Park rangers worry about possible health hazards from E. coli and parasites in the runoff to a foul odors. New rules are coming into play now. Hikers must remove their own waste to prevent an accumulation of excrement from this point forward.

River plastics: report documents the top ten

With so much attention going to the abundance of plastic in oceans, authors of a new report on marine plastics say more focus is needed on the plastic in rivers, where 80 per cent of ocean plastic originates. Earthwatch Europe and Plastic Oceans UK identify the top ten plastics found in fresh water bodies. They are: plastic bottles and lids, food wrappers (crisp packets and sweet wrappers), cigarette butts, sanitary items (nappies, sanitary towels, tampons and wet wipes), plastic or polystyrene takeaway containers, cotton bud sticks, plastic or polystyrene cups, smoking-related packaging.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (APR 7 - 14)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Pennsylvania voting on thirteen bills (4/12)

The recipe for curbing waste in Pennsylvania includes 13 state bills ready for passage, ranging from e-waste legislation and higher fines for littering to bans on polystyrene, plastic bags and straws.

Litter-picking kits given out in this district (4/10) Daventry, UK ensures its litter picking volunteers are well equipped by giving them a litter kit. It contains a litter picker, high-visibility tabard, gloves, litter bags and hoops to assist with the job. Also inside, info on safety and best practices, how to organize a litter pick and arrange collection of rubbish at the end of the event.

Manila keeps racking up the fines (4/9)

This must be a record. The municipal authority in Manila reported that 4,316 persons were fined for littering in the first quarter of 2019.

Bath hits the bottom as untidiest in UK (4/12)

You can bet Bath, England won't be putting this statistic in its travel brochures: UK's untidiest city of 52 ranked by the Solar Centre. Derry, Ireland was the cleanest.

Ontario consultation open until April 20th (4/14) There's still time to feed into the Ontario government's public consultation on waste and litter, the first such review undertaken in almost 50 years. Find out how.