

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

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[China's ban lowers bag use](#)

China is reporting a 66 per cent decrease in plastic bag use in supermarkets thanks to a strict Chinese limit on the use of ultra-thin plastic. A whopping 40 billion fewer bags were circulated this year over last. In 2008 China prohibited retailers from giving away free bags, but in rural areas some still do, environmental group Global Village says.

[That's the way the sausage rolls](#)

A woman who was fined £150 for feeding a piece of sausage roll to a pigeon that flew off with the evidence has [Bath Council rethinking](#) the renewal of its contract with the firm, 3GS, after a video of the incident went viral.

[Plastic Free July poses a challenge](#)

A challenge to live one month without using single use plastic items is part of the marking of Plastic Free July in Australia, a movement claiming participation of 120 million people from 177 countries.

[No party when balloons are in the air](#)

The group Alliance for the Great Lakes is sounding concern over its finding of more than 18,000 balloons, balloon pieces or balloon strings along the Great Lakes shoreline between 2016 and 2018. Lethal to birds and marine life through ingestion or entanglement, there's [an online site for reporting](#) balloon debris and a push to have balloons banned from outdoor events of all kinds. Five US states limit or ban balloon releases.

Toronto's NBA parade a jubilant mess

Millions of Toronto Raptors basketball fans left a lot of waste behind at the celebratory parade and rally for the NBA champs on June 24 in the city's downtown. The scene sparked a letter from the Litter Prevention Program, which was printed in the Toronto Star newspaper. Meanwhile, [in Hong Kong](#), some among the estimated one million protesters stayed into the early hours after the massive political rally to clean up the streets.

DID YOU KNOW?

Huntsville, Alabama has decided to give litter issues a greater priority. This week the city's Operation Green Team announced a retired police officer is coming aboard part-time specifically to enforce litter laws.



ECO-BOATS FROM LITTERED BOTTLES: News agency Al Jazeera provides us with [inspired footage](#) showing how one man is dealing with plastic bottle pollution in Cameroon, Africa, where there is no recycling. Local entrepreneur Ismael Essoume salvages bottles from massive and unsightly dumping grounds to build fishing boats.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUN 16 - 23)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Fake litter officer making the rounds (6/18)

A warning went out this week from Bridgend Council in UK about a man posing as a litter officer and demanding cash from passersby for alleged littering offences.

Singapore list of no-no's includes littering (6/20)

From GMA Network, here are the six activities to avoid in Singapore: littering, spitting, chewing gum, vandalism, smoking, asking for a change of food price.

Puppet: "Litter trashes everyone; don't do it." (6/17)

Palmetto Pride and the Columbia Marionette Theatre have teamed up to bring a litter prevention puppet show to South Carolina schools. Starring a puppet named Nancy, a litter bug who learns to reform her ways, the show combines music, dance, a skit and a talking trash can.

Eyes and telephones employed to curb waste (6/19)

Mangaluru, India has a new way of coaxing compliance out of litter droppers. Members of the 85-strong volunteer group Swachhata Yodharu watch for and identify any person who's committing acts of littering or dumping, then follow up with a phone call asking that person to correct the misdeed.

A high price to pay for a smoke (6/18)

After Eric, a Nevada smoker, was fined \$1,174 in Las Vegas for flicking his finished cigarette to the side of the road, he posted [a video](#) to caution others.