

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

September 1, 2019



Shown at left, imagery from Calgary's push to curtail the littering of cigarette butts. Posters feature iconic city landmarks.

Photo, right, a look at Stafford's new gum-busting machine. See stories below.



Litterbugs helped pay for this baby

A new gum-ridding power washer in Stafford, UK was financed in part with £21,000 littering fines. There the maximum basic fine is £75. The 'gum buster' steam cleaner attacks the hard-to-remove adhesive gum stains more effectively. Council spends £42,000 annually on gum removal alone.



Hotel chain to end mini soaps

The Marriott chain of hotels worldwide will stop providing tiny toiletries in its rooms by end-2020, the firm said. Soap, shampoo and conditioner will then be offered in reusable pump containers instead.

Free ashtrays part of campaign

Calgary, Alberta is kicking some serious butt. The western Canadian city [unveiled its plan](#) to fight one of its most vexatious types of littering - smokers throwing, tossing, dropping and flicking the non-biodegradable by-product of their cigarette habit: the plastic filter. To counter that nasty bit of behaviour, Calgary is running a sign campaign for two weeks until Sept. 10 on trucks, social media and walking billboards. "No ifs, ands or butts, don't risk the environment or fines up to \$750" is the slogan. Peace officers will take to the streets to educate smokers and hand out up to 6,000 pocket extinguishing ashtrays labelled "This Is An Ashtray". A snap fastener seals the pouch until the smoker can find a garbage bin to house their butts properly. Enforcement to stop littering smokers will occur when necessary. #buttfreeyc.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (AUG 25 - SEP 1)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Coke's mini-bottle idea fizzles, falls flat (8/28)

Coca-Cola wants it known it is working to make a [World Without Waste](#). But its decision to market 250 ml mini bottles of Coke in Singapore has the company being slammed there for adding to single use plastic pollution.

Plastic-trapping robot on the way in Thailand (8/28)

Using artificial intelligence, Thailand's Department of Marine and Coastal Development is working on a robot that will trap plastic debris before it reaches the sea.

This Irish County takes on dashboard dining (8/29)

Tullamore pubs, cafes and restaurants are being visited and requested to tell their patrons to be environmentally responsible with takeaway packaging. Offaly County Council and partners have stickers for them to display.

Lunchtime blitzes in Basildon (8/28)

"We're Cleaning Up" is the tagline for regular lunchtime cleanups engaging the community of Basildon, UK until October 10. The blitzes to prevent littering are coupled with taking a hard line in court with incorrigibles.

Man charged in 'killer litter' death (8/30)

An Australian man has been arrested and charged and, if convicted, could face a five-year prison term in the death of an elderly man who was hit by a wine bottle dropped from a high rise balcony in Singapore.

DID YOU KNOW?

Litterland was invited to contribute an article which was published in City of Toronto Councillor Cynthia Lai's August 2019 newsletter. Focusing on littering concertedly with communities is a very important action that elected officials can easily take. This publication is happy to help.