

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

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[UK river cleaning plan finds backing](#)

Coca-Cola is to fund an ambitious plan to clean litter from five of UK's biggest rivers and their tributaries. The *Treasure Your River* plan will be overseen by its champion, the non-profit litter prevention charity Hubbub UK. In May well-equipped volunteers will start on the job of removing 90 tonnes of trash from rivers like the Thames and Severn. Also, behaviour-nudging promotions and eye-catching bins will be hitting Bristol, Manchester, London, Cardiff, and Edinburgh.

[Cambodia has a great idea in the bag](#)

Cleanbodia, a waste reduction non-profit in Phnom Penh, is making its mark in Cambodia with a reusable, non-chemical "I'M A PLANT" bag made from cassava.

[Plastic-trapping ocean barrier works](#)

After some bugs, the non-profit Ocean Cleanup said in a [press release](#) its floating device is finally capturing plastic and microplastics from the Pacific Ocean.

[Cargo ships blamed for bottles](#)

The oft-repeated statistic saying 80 per cent of ocean plastic litter has a land-based origin may not be true. A new study points to cargo ships as a key, overlooked source of plastic bottle pollution in the seas. In tracing where plastic bottles were originally made and where they were found in the ocean and then following the currents, researchers concluded these bottles could not possibly travel the distances without being carried part way by ship, then dumped.

[Green watchdog will have bite](#)

Great Britain will establish an independent office for a litter prevention czar. The Bristol-based Office of Environmental Protection will police the government's progress on environmental issues. With its staff of 120 people, the investigative and research office will be empowered to compel action if targets for addressing plastic pollution, air, water and wildlife protection aren't met.



A nuisance detection squad of 87 is at work in Nagpur as part of a Clean India civic campaign to root out people who openly spit-pee-litter. This week the [city suspended](#) 12 of its own employees for spitting on municipal property.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (OCT 6 - 20)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Government publication to assess road litter [\(10/7\)](#)

Later this year England's government will publish an independent review of the littered state of the nation's highways after local councils have commented. The move is part of a litter strategy that's updated annually.

A messy business, 'Diaper Dumper' arrested [\(10/7\)](#)

In Brookside, Alabama night sensor cameras were used to catch the 'Diaper Dumper', a man who dumped gross garbage by the road once or twice weekly for two years.

A Lithuanian success story in the forests [\(10/9\)](#)

Time, effort and money put into preventing litter are showing results in Lithuania. 2016 saw reverse vending machines introduced there. Awareness grew. Two billion containers came back for redemption. Now a state agency reports "less littering cases in forests."

Dutch dodging deposit scheme for now [\(10/13\)](#)

If or when a deposit scheme for small, plastic, beverage bottles does come to the Netherlands in 2022, the plan will include a deposit on cans, legislators have decided.

Vaping, e-cigarette litter pinned on teens, [\(10/11\)](#)

UC San Francisco researchers have charted a growing stream of toxic litter on Bay Area high school grounds. An "epidemic" of teens using e-cigarettes, vaping pens, little cigars and cigarillos can let loose heavy metals, plastics, nicotine, lithium-ion batteries and other toxins, they say in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

DID YOU KNOW?

A UK Council is under fire again for the zeal of its private litter law enforcers at 3GS.

[Details emerging](#) from a citizen's information request show that nine in ten 3GS citations in Bath were for cigarette butt littering. Critics say smokers have been disproportionately and unfairly targeted in a "money grab" that hasn't left the place significantly cleaner.