

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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November 15, 2020

Finally, PPE bins!

The Montreal suburb of Saint-Laurent is making an earnest effort to capture all the PPE littering its environs. Bins, designed with potential mask-and-glove litterers in mind, have been placed outside four municipal buildings, standing out as the obvious place to drop off virus-protection items. Used PPE will be sent to up-cycling leader, TerraCycle, which will convert the disposable face masks and gloves into industrial plastic wood for street furniture. PPE recycling bins are also in employee workshops, part of an ongoing mission "to make Saint-Laurent a sustainable and resilient municipal territory."



'Biodegradable' masks in works

A Canadian firm is developing face masks and air filters out of wood, rather than plastic. FPInnovations' announced its discovery in September. With the aid of a \$1.3-million federal government forest industry grant, the company created a biodegradable filtration medium made from wood waste that boasts 60% efficiency, acceptable for general mask use.

A full month of free interactive programs

Parents are always looking for ways to keep their kids busy especially during prolonged, stay-at-home periods. For the keen and environmentally minded child [Litter Litter Everywhere](#) features a story about Parky Pigeons and projects and quizzes from an approved eco-curriculum. In Northern Ireland [Live Here Love Here](#) invites everyone to take advantage of its Healthy Oceans, Healthy Minds [package of activities](#).

Sydney's hidden cameras spying

In what's being characterized as a bold move, the City of Ryde, AU has a camera hidden in a pole facing a KFC restaurant that's a known magnet for illegal dumping in Gladesville in northwest Sydney. While some suggest this is a form of spying, council says an increase in littering and dumping during COVID-19 has prompted more pointed actions. There are extra patrols now and a surveillance trailer policing hot spots along with camera installations at several other locations.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (NOV 8 - 15)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Toronto Zoo puts litter trap at front entrance (11/10)

Pollution Probe is behind the installation of three litter traps and a Seabin at the Toronto Zoo, part of a plan to educate visitors about the need to control their waste.

From the vault: There really are no excuses (11/9)

A decade old, but still relevant, Wellingborough, UK's fact-filled 2010 [No Excuses](#) campaign resurfaced on the Internet this week and still serves as a good model.

Folly Beach butt action being contemplated (11/10)

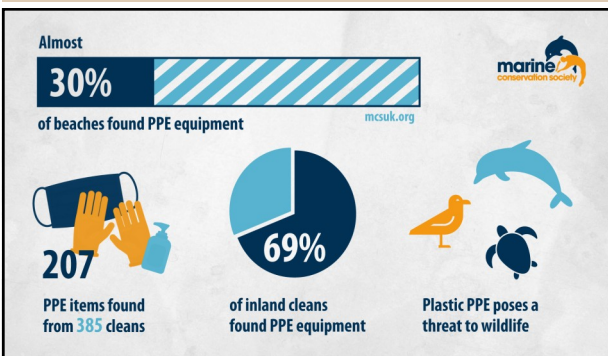
Councillors in Folly Beach, South Carolina are trying to figure out how to prevent cigarette butts on their sands. Chances are they will authorize the implementation of a \$25 fine for persons caught smoking on the beach.

Today, Happy America Recycles Day! (11/11)

For November 15, the 23rd annual America Recycles Day, the group Keep America Beautiful is pushing individual recycling action and behavior hoping to convert casual recyclers into full-timers.

Burger wrapper investigation solves caper (11/12)

It took serious sleuthing to nab a motorist in Criggion, Wales in a McDonald's wrapper littering case. The act was caught on CCTV. Then, using a receipt they found in the tossed bag, investigators were able to review restaurant camera footage and trace the vehicle/owner.



DID YOU KNOW?

PPE contamination continues to [dog the world](#). In the UK, the Great British Beach Clean events found masks and gloves at 30 percent of their beach locations. And according to [Source to Sea Litter Quest data](#), 69 per cent of litter picks netted finds of gloves and masks. [USA update](#).