

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

[litterpreventionprogram.com](http://litterpreventionprogram.com)

March 21, 2021

## [Petition seeks polystyrene ban](#)

[Clean Planet Today](#), a UK group that hates litter, wants to generate clicks on a [change.org petition](#) calling for a ban on expanded polystyrene foam packaging. Every petition click will prompt an email to environment ministers across the UK urging a ban on so-called "Styrofoam". Calling the material "lethal to wildlife", the petition points out the insidious nature of foam and the minute pellets it sheds as it breaks down. "It never degrades. It is time for an immediate ban to be placed on this highly dangerous and toxic form of plastic pollution," the group asserts.

## [Ghana group meets challenge](#)

The Great Ghana Clean Up is aiming to support the government's goal of making Accra the cleanest city in the nation. Founder Elijah Mensah, an international fellowship recipient who forged an affiliation with Keep America Beautiful, says a study by his group identified apathy as a key contributor to waste disposal woes. He has 30 volunteers doing regular cleanups in Tulaku, Ashaiman - heavy duty jobs - and educating people.

## [Denmark asked to ban coffee cup](#)

Danish legislators may soon be feeling the heat from a common plastic item -- the ubiquitous coffee cup. Ocean conservation group Oceana is promoting a ban on coffee cups because people can't stop littering them. The group wants measures like 80% refillable by 2030, a deposit system - a 'latte levy' - on cups and bans on their use at festivals, sporting events and sit-down eateries. It is estimated that Danes sip through 300 million single-use cups a year. So in future if you want a coffee with your Danish there, bring your own mug.

## [W. Greenland has self to blame](#)

A study by Wageningen University in the Netherlands found that only four of every one thousand pieces of identifiable plastic litter retrieved from the coastline of West Greenland originated from outside of Greenland. Prior to this scientists believed that the ocean currents had carried the plastic in from afar.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In Maryland *Litter Free OC* stands for Ocean City where litter awareness messaging for billboards, Boardwalk trams, social media, banners, emails and newsletters is freshly crafted and ready for use in the town's new campaign. We say it pays to invest in constantly reminding and educating.



## [Not all litter is on the ground](#)

A sky lantern, not a meteorite, was the cause of a fire that torched part of the deck of a man's Kelowna, BC home last week. It's unlawful and dumb to release sky lanterns. Ditto balloons. In Georgia Rep. Genevieve McDonald has a [bill to bring balloons under litter law](#).

## HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAR 14 - 21)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Litter app touted in Kingston, Jamaica [\(3/16\)](#)**

Kingston, Jamaica is pumping an app, available on both iOS and Android, to help report litter and keep tabs on what happens after the report is filed. Reporting is being encouraged. User images will be geotagged and used to investigate, clean up problems and report back.

### **Jordan gives drivers bags for their trash [\(3/17\)](#)**

'Keep your bag in your car' is a new push in Jordan that hopes to cure motorists of their littering addiction. It's a massive giveaway of litter bags for the car to help those habitually careless people break their unfortunate habit.

### **Winnipeg names its hot spots in annual index [\(3/16\)](#)**

Take Pride Winnipeg, lead agency for litter advocacy in Manitoba's capital, has finished its litter index early, ranking 12 areas on a scale of 1-4, from 1, no litter, to 4, a lot. Results show a bit more litter overall this year and an unwanted [plethora of littered masks](#) with strings attached that can entangle and potentially hurt wildlife.

### **It's very difficult to mask this problem [\(3/15\)](#)**

Lethbridge, Alberta residents collected 1,253 of them in a single afternoon. There is concern about the blight.

### **Masks and gloves prompt interstate closure [\(3/15\)](#)**

The California highways department resorted to full lane closures to clear littered PPE from the freeway.