

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

May 9, 2021



These UK tykes from [Nursestime Hebburn](#) filled two bins with litter using tools supplied by Friends of Hebburn Cemetery.

Ontario takes a pass

For the second straight year COVID-19 has kyboshed Ontario's fledgling Day of Action on Litter cleanup, launched in 2019 but never fully activated due to the pandemic. While some places like [Thunder Bay](#) went ahead with distancing measures and solo work, the province-wide May 11 cancellation was made "out of an abundance of caution," said environment officials, adding that they've pivoted to make this a 'virtual' Day of Action featuring a newly created Partner Guide of sample social media content, shareable graphics and ideas to inspire individual actions on litter and waste. MECP (the environment ministry) promised that its [litter web page](#) will be updated. This is welcome news. The Litter Prevention Program advocated for several years for improvements to the ministry's online communications about litter.

Toronto launches dog poop pilot

Toronto is launching a poop pilot to see if humans can be trained to stop leaving dog poop bags on tree branches, fences and lawns. Ten high-traffic dog parks have been earmarked for special 'Dog Poop' bins to see if Torontonians canine-crap-heaving people can be cured. In Toronto dog owners can compost their dog's droppings in untied plastic bags in the city's organic waste curbside collection program, the Green Bin, but evidence suggests they prefer to decorate their neighbourhoods with them instead. If successful, doggy bins may become fixtures in other parks.

Tetra Pak will tether its caps

Tetra Pak will invest €100 million a year for the next five to ten years to rid its packaging of detachable plastic caps and other non-sustainable features. To start, the company announced it is retooling to create a tethered cap as a measure to control littered lids.

DID YOU KNOW?

High praise rained on British High Commissioner to Pakistan Christian Turner, who made a positive online impression by tweeting a photo of himself picking up litter. The post garnered 3,488 retweets and was quoted 858 times.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAY 2 - 9)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Contest picks art entries for public display [\(5/4\)](#)

Four of 85 children's designs entered from Bourton Meadow Academy in Buckingham Town Council's 'Stop Littering' poster competition have been chosen by the town clerk for display on notice boards and in parks.

Miami's hires company to install litter trap [\(5/5\)](#)

"Swimming through a rainbow of cans" is how one local describes the trash flow into Biscayne Bay, FL from storm drains. In August a netting installation will try to trap the detritus and stop adding to mounds in the bay.

Youth behind plastic-riding #skipthebags [\(5/5\)](#)

To protect turtles, beaches and sea life from the hazards of plastic bags let loose in Emerald Isle, NC Grade 8 student Noah Swindell had his family's help to create magnets calling on people to #skipthebags.

Ireland invests €8m in litter prevention in 2021 [\(5/5\)](#)

The Irish government has committed €5m for litter awareness, infrastructure, prevention and cleaning campaigns. Another €3m will go to local authorities to combat dumping. Based on the 2020 results from its annual litter monitoring service (NLPMS), on-the-ground improvements have been noted, innovations such as bin mapping to pinpoint ideal sites for solar-powered bins and central procurement of litter picking equipment so it's readily available to those engaged in the task.