

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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In the politics of trash, these two don't mess around

A patrolling political husband and wife team in Northampton, UK leaves no doubt as to their stand on littering and fly-tipping. Councillors Terry and Gareth Eales leave stickers on illegally placed trash across Spencer, Dallington, Kings Heath and Rye Hill telling the property owner that they have reported the matter.



Above, councillors 'stick it' to illegal trash.



Staten Island solution misses target

Above, Staten Island confiscated this bin that Minority Leader Steven Matteo asked non-profit Where To Turn and local artist Scott LoBaido to design. Solid waste officials said litter increased as people took aim and missed.

GAME OFF DUE TO GOLF BALLS IN ALASKA RIVER

Pike's Landing, a restaurant and hotel in Fairbanks, Alaska canceled its longstanding golf game feature where patrons could smack balls across the Chena River after complaints that too many missed shots were littering the water, causing environmental damage and health risks to the river's inhabitants.

National Parks Week hails an attack on litter in Loch Lomond

Scotland forces have galvanized around fighting littering at Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park. A major 'Respect Your Park' initiative kicked off National Parks Week. Police Scotland, Forest Enterprise Scotland and the park are all involved. They will be working to abate littering by the park's estimated four million yearly visitors. It's a package of remedies from warnings to park ranger fines - £80 for littering and £200 for dumping. No camping zones will be established on the west side of the park and elsewhere under new bylaws initiated earlier this year by the former environment minister.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUL 24 - 31)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Cash for containers a 'go' in Queensland (7/21)

A press release from Boomerang Alliance celebrates the success of the environmental umbrella's decade-long fight to achieve a bottle deposit scheme in Australia. Queensland environment minister Steven Miles announced that a cash for beverage containers system will be in place by 2018. With New South Wales pledging a 2017 start date, pressure will build on Victoria to follow suit for an east coast sweep.

Keen councillor out to lead the pack (7/26)

An inspirational highlight in Ferndown is town council's litter champion, Councillor, Steve Lugg. He asked his colleagues to chip in to purchase picks, bags and gloves for the public to use. He hopes many will follow his litter-picking lead and organize cleanups, and is already pushing the Great British Spring Clean 2017.

Sentencing deferred so judge can visit site (7/25)

A judge in Kota Kinabalu, Borneo has taken the unusual step of touring the premises of five people charged with littering before sentencing them August 1. All entered guilty pleas. Judge Ainul Shahrin had ordered the locations cleaned and postponed her judgment until after her site visit. The cases are the first examples of enforcement under Anti-Litter Bylaw 2005.

DID YOU KNOW?

Food packaging, including bottles and cups, comprises 74% of the litter in the Thames River, says [new data from a group](#) that monitors the health of the waterway. Using "citizen scientists", Thames21 did 36 litter surveys after the 2014 founding of Thames River Watch. Analysis shows that toiletries (15%), non-food related packaging (6%), smoking related (5%), clothing (.5%) make up the rest of the junk in the river. The study also found food packaging degraded rapidly, contributing to the global microplastics crisis.