

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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Philly's mayor to form a litter cabinet

The mayor of Philadelphia has taken an executive approach to solving his city's litter problem by forming a litter cabinet to tackle it. Under an order Mayor Jim Kenney just signed, members from all the key city departments and agencies will be meeting regularly to map out a playbook in keeping with Philly's quest for cleanliness. They will look at ways to collaborate and weave litter prevention into programs across the board to replace the current piecemeal approach to litter reduction. Kenney announced that he will assemble 16 high level representatives for his Zero Waste and Litter Cabinet, including from the School District of Philadelphia, the Office of the District Attorney, SEPTA, PennDOT, the Department of Planning and Development and the Commerce Department. The body will have six months to develop a zero waste plan that will shepherd the city toward significant waste reduction improvements by 2035.

Canadian Christmas Wishes!

A bright, clean holiday season to you and yours.



Dublin doubles down on bins

Solar bins will be putting a shine on Dublin soon. Council issued a tender call for 800 solar-powered compactors as part of a €5m smart city plan. Bins are wired to notify workers when emptying is required. They can hold up to eight times the capacity of a traditional bin. Dublin plans on an eventual 20 percent cut in the number of litter receptacles in public places. City politicians hope to emulate the success of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, whose decision to move to solar bins boosted operational effectiveness, reduced costs and won it an award as the most efficient program out of 500 entries from councils around the world.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 18 - 25)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Youth spur grant in South Carolina city (12/21)

A litter-fighting grant of \$4,966 to Hardeeville Police to purchase vests, binoculars and flashlights as tools was helped along by the fact that youth advanced the idea.

You know it's a bad day when ... (12/22)

Robert Leder, accused of lining up and wrecking 27 abandoned shopping carts, told police he grew sick of seeing them dumped in his community of Stamford, CT, an affidavit claims. He was subsequently charged with criminal mischief.

Super vac sweeps up in clean-up circles (12/24)

Tipperary will test a new litter truck and super vacuum invented by one of its litter enforcement officers. Council was full of praise for Antony Wynne's invention, some suggesting it could be a breakthrough device for the Tidy Towns movement. He fitted the side of an old sweeper truck with a funnel and brush device on wheels.

Borneo boasts its 23rd litter-free restaurant (12/20)

At a city hall ceremony Kota Kinabalu welcomed a twenty-third restaurant to its fold of 152 avowed, litter-free premises in an anti-litter bug campaign begun in 2008. These establishments pledge to keep their surroundings tidy and they limit plastic bag use.

DID YOU KNOW?

Seven more plastics industry associations signed the "The Declaration of the Global Plastics Associations for Solutions on Marine Litter" in 2016 bringing the total number of partnering associations to 69 since the joint declaration's advent in 2010. Newest signatories come from USA, Bangladesh, Ghana, Myanmar, Indonesia and Vietnam.