

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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Looking at litter through a world lens

A traditional carp-releasing fest on Kitchen God Day in Vietnam has spawned a strategy for preventing people from tossing plastic bags into the waters and littering during the event. Volunteers help remind and clean up. Pinetown, South Africa's problem is the litter eyesore in front of the town's landmark library. And, in Wiltshire, UK veteran advocate Jeremy Cross notes a five-fold increase in litter in his area, which he attributes to more people eating on the streets, cigarette-related litter and wayward plastic bottles.



Pinetown, near Durban, is contending with the mar-and-jar sight of a makeshift dumpsite outside Pinetown Library. Councillor Tim Brauteseth blames criminal and vagrant elements for the problem. He called for better security and the erection of palisade fencing.

Hanoi Happening

On Kitchen God Day volunteers hold signs that say, "Carp release. No plastic bag littering." They target 'hot spots' like Long Bien Bridge, Hoan Kiem Lake, Den and Trang Lakes for the campaign.



PHOTOS: Left, Jeremy Cross, UK litter advocate. Above, Hanoi volunteers. Top right, litter at Pinetown Library in South Africa.



Ottawa mayor targets litter in speech

Litter appeared in Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson's annual state of the city address. The mayor is bent on upping recycling rates and the number of bins in Canada's capital city. In his speech Wednesday he appealed to people to not litter and to recycle more.

DID YOU KNOW?

Woolongong City Council has written supermarket chains as a nudge toward a voluntary plastic bag ban, suggesting, for example, that the food merchant giants in Australia like Illawarra give customers ten free reusable bags per year or offer returnable loaners from an in-store "bag bin."

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JAN 19-26)

Some of what made our News Reel this week litterpreventionprogram.com/news-reel.html

A business case for social action on litter [1/20] UK's Foodservice Packaging Association held a Litter Summit Jan. 16 and heard from campaigner Ian Bland. He presses corporations to spend 5 per cent of their marketing budgets on pushing behavioural change.

Miss Teen Earth and Little Miss Earth Phi [1/24] Girls in two Filipino pageants are green teens and tots vying to be crowned the most environmentally friendly by telling what they've done personally to inspire others.

'Sex litter' raises eyebrows in Bristol [1/23] The council will meet Monday to discuss "sex litter" – condoms littering Bristol's historic Downs. In June 2007 two firefighters shone their torches on sexual activities on a drive past the Downs and were stripped of rank, transferred, handed suspensions, \$1000 fines and were required to attend a two-day seminar on homophobia.

Corpus Christi answers the call, hosts forum [1/22] Corpus Christi, TX streamed its nighttime litter meeting tapping the community for ideas. www.cctexas.com

Correction: A case of misstated identity Nashville's state of Tennessee was incorrectly identified in a story in last week's issue. Litterland regrets the error.