

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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**ARTFUL SIGN**  
 Shown right, signs like this help get across the message that littering is wrong. Every city ought to have a solid design and plan for no littering signs.

## [These cameras watch for people peeing](#)

Cameras have been installed on al-Marghany, one of Cairo's main streets in Heliopolis District, to prevent



public urination and littering and hold violators accountable. Signs peppering the area make it graphically clear that the common practice of men peeing in public is now being monitored and somehow regulated amid sanitation and public health concerns. Critics blame the city for not providing public toilets. Other Cairo street signs remind people to respect the environment and to refrain from littering.

## [Cigarette pollution hits Swiss railways](#)

Swiss Federal Railways may extinguish smoking outside all railway stations by year's end, say internal documents obtained by paper SonntagsBlick. Options from an outright ban to smoking zones or lounges are already in a 12-month test phase at six stations in Switzerland. Some 1200 workers tidy train platforms where smoking is still permitted. They clear 100 tons of cigarette butt litter every year and empty 6,371 receptacles at stations.

## **Think tank in Russia draws up plan**

Russians have drawn on Australian know-how to prepare for their participation in Clean Up The World, a hands-on global project headed by Estonia-based Let's Do It! World. Rob Curnow, littering behaviours expert and co-author of the litter prevention bible, *Litterology*, ran workshops in Vladivostok, St Petersburg, Moscow and Yekaterinburg using litter prevention and sustainability models from his book. A group of 75 community members, fellow psychologists, activists and ecologists working on Dream Island and beyond attended with only two days notice. [Photos](#) on Facebook.

## [They're pickin' in Picken for the 150th](#)

A county cleanup on March 23 will kick off Picken, South Carolina's 150th anniversary celebrations. Championed by Palmetto Pride, a robust anti-litter group, the event encourages residents to show their home-town pride.

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (FEB 25 - MAR 4)** Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Gardening studied as a weapon to fight crime** [\(2/26\)](#)

Charles Branas, an epidemiologist at Columbia U., enlisted the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and Philadelphia's housing division in a three-year study that proves tidy, landscaped spaces reduce crime. They transformed hundreds of crime-ridden vacant city lots into beauty spots. Crime decreased by a modest 10%. In poverty zones, however, overall crime was 13% lower and gun crime was down by almost one-third.

### **Brit star puts spotlight on litter-picking sons** [\(2/26\)](#)

UK television host Kirstie Allsopp took to Instagram with a rare photo of her young sons to applaud them for picking up litter. The popular *Location, Location, Location* star is known for calling out litterbugs and fronting anti-litter campaigns.

### **Scouts scour, scurry and inspire city to act** [\(2/28\)](#)

Boy Scout Troop 314 was the first to sign up in October for a new Adopt-a-Park/Trail plan in Heath, TX, pledging to keep a public area clean and tidy for 12 months. Council officially approved the program last month.

### **Help Change Ghana is headline news at home** [\(3/1\)](#)

Good to see some homegrown media exposure for Elijah Mensah whose NGO *Help Change Ghana* leads the call for funding a wholesale cleanup of the African nation, starting with Accra, population 5-million plus.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Scotland continues with its [trial](#) of removing roadside bins and appealing to motorists to give their litter a lift home. Signs will replace bins at lay-bys in some Dumfries and Galloway locations, will stand alongside bins at other sites, asking people in cars to wait until they reach their final destination to dispose of their waste products properly.