

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

April 29, 2018

Scene of the crime

Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana installed an arresting pop-up display in Prien Lake Park to reinforce that littering is a crime. A seven-foot sculptured figure made of litter, outlined in chalk like a body at a crime scene, was set up beside a billboard bearing several key facts about the problem. And yard signs were produced to relay facts such as, "In Louisiana, 81 percent of litter is intentional" and "Litter is not only plastic bottles and cigarette butts; it's also orange peels and apple cores." Meanwhile a state bill to create the Louisiana Trash and Litter Task Force [moved closer to a vote](#) Thursday. Senate Concurrent Resolution 42, led by Sen. Conrad Appel, is headed to the House floor for debate after passing at House Governmental Affairs Committee.



Canada's online suggestion box seeks solutions to marine litter

Environment Minister Catherine McKenna used Earth Day to announce an [online public consultation](#) on what to do about plastic in the oceans. This comes on the heels of PM Justin Trudeau's visit to UK where the government is moving to ban single-use plastics like straws and cotton buds in a bid to end plastic waste by 2042 and has recently pledged cash for action on invasive marine plastics, 80 per cent of which originate from land.

Incline Fools: a leg up on litter

Colorado's Manitou Incline, a steep hiking trail, has attracted a new breed of climbers who remove litter every step of the way. They're the "Incline Fools". Their rigorous daily ritual involves an ascent and descent while gathering refuse let loose by thoughtless people who abuse the Incline's natural splendor. The activity is reminiscent of 'plogging', the new jogging/litter-picking trend from Scandinavia. To see video of Incline Fools in action, click on the headline.

DID YOU KNOW?

A red-bellied black snake was lucky to get away alive after becoming trapped in the opening of a littered soft drink can on a Macclesfield, Adelaide, AU roadside. This [video](#) shows the reptile's dramatic rescue.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (APR 22 - 29)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Plastic bag ban proposed for New York State [\(4/24\)](#)

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo wants a statewide ban on plastic shopping bags by 2019, except those used for vegetables or raw meat, garbage or dry cleaning. His legislation would prevent local municipalities from overriding the ban. New Yorkers use 23 billion plastic bags a year. The idea of bag fees never gained traction.

Young drivers targeted in awareness effort [\(4/23\)](#)

Stafford Borough puts anti-litter education on cards and distributes them through driving schools to new drivers. To increase the chance that students will retain the card, it includes a place for noting their lesson dates.

San Francisco gets needle cleanup squad [\(4/23\)](#)

A sign of the times, San Francisco has formed a team of ten, full-time employees to remove discarded syringes and hypodermic needles from city streets..

Arctic cruise operators hop onboard [\(4/24\)](#)

The umbrella group for Arctic cruise operators, AECO, has committed to drastically cut back on the use of single-use plastic items on cruise ships and involve passengers in beach cleanups. Their pledge to act honours the United Nations Clean Seas initiative.

In the words of a Canterbury Councillor . . . [\(4/25\)](#)

In three words Cllr Simon Cook summed up the cause of Canterbury's litter problem. It's due to an "incredibly lazy minority", the council leader said this week.