

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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DUMPING ON NATURE

A beautiful scene made ugly by people who don't take their waste home, this photo from Scotland could be from anywhere. Littering afflicts up to 40 per cent of the population at some time or another, yet it's a nasty thing to do to others and to the natural surroundings we all share.



["Trash Dash" in Chengdu City, China](#)

A first ever in Chengdu, China, capital of Sichuan: *Trash Dash*. Blue Sheep, a fair trade handicrafts and gift shop, hosted the city's first "plogging" event yesterday, a combined run and litter pick for charity. Blue Sheep uses its profits to help China's most disadvantaged groups through financial support and craftsmanship training. yesterday:

[Take your rubbish home, vacationers told](#)

For the Bank Holiday clean and green groups are banding together to put a check on "careful" littering linked to people eating at UK beaches. Visitors to proud, shoreline communities are being asked to #binit4beaches as a show of respect for the environment. Four in ten in a UK survey said they litter their takeaway containers and packaging, but do so "carefully", for example leaving waste items on a ledge, a bench or near, not in, a garbage can. YouGov conducted the survey for Keep Britain Tidy's #StillLittering campaign. The Environment Agency, Defra, Keep Britain Tidy, Marine Conservation Society, Surfers Against Sewage and others are urging beachgoers to #binit4beaches.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (AUG 19 - 26)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

[Tennessee is eyeing the bottle](#)

A deposit-return system could be coming to Tennessee for bottles and cans. A proposed law expected in January would add a 5-cent refundable fee to aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers. The statewide recycling rate for containers is currently just 10 percent. [Supporters](#) of "TennCan" believe a legislated deposit system will boost participation to 80 percent. They've been lobbying for it since 2004. Ten US states have similar policies in place. Sen. Frank Niceley (R-Strawberry Plains), a farmer, sponsored the bill, saying farmers "always get the cans and bottles in their hay fields and pasture fields." He believes his bill will create jobs and noted the farm bureau has concerns about proliferating plastic waste.

Coke sponsorship of race fizzles in Dublin [\(8/19\)](#)

The Dublin Rock 'n' Roll half marathon was hobbled by bad publicity over empty water and energy drink bottles littering the route through Liffey Valley. Complaints put sponsor and beverage provider Coca-Cola on the hot seat. The company issued a post-event statement promising to be "working more closely" with organizers in future to prevent a repeat of littering on such a widespread scale.

Tenfold increase in Manchester's fines [\(8/23\)](#)

Manchester Council makes no excuses for its record year and tenfold increase in litter fines - averaging 50 a day using private contractor, 3GS. In four months, April to July, enforcement officers issued 6,527 tickets each at £80, reduced to £50 if paid within ten days.

New bylaw coming to control holiday partiers [\(8/23\)](#)

Financial penalties could be in store for event goers in Karnataka, India. Groups of 100 persons or more will require a state permit for outdoor holiday gatherings to ensure partiers clean up after themselves or get fined.

Shopping trolleys occupy town's time [\(8/22\)](#)

Stratford, UK will roll with a strategy to corral littered trolleys and stop shoppers who abandon them. A new group is now pondering ideas for stopping the dumping.

DID YOU KNOW?

Three tips for cleaner beaches: 1) Take reusable containers and bottles. 2) Always remove your rubbish from the beach, and make sure litter is properly secured in bins so it can't be blown away. 3) If the bins are full, take rubbish home and recycle. (Leaving garbage beside the bin is still littering.)