

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

[litterpreventionprogram.com](http://litterpreventionprogram.com)

August 4, 2019



## Residents use technology

In Chennai, India a mix of CCTV cameras, smart phones, loudspeakers, a mobile app and connectivity all factor into the high-tech solution that residents of Bhai Garden invented to reduce littering. The system, which talks to people while filming them in the act of littering, embarrasses them into correcting themselves.

Photo, left: After going in and cleaning an area, Blackwood Action on Litter Community Group in Wales posts signs like this along with red bags for receiving people's trash. Since forming 11 months ago, volunteers have picked up 450 bags of litter during its one dozen outings.

## Big grocer to ditch plastic bags

Grocery chain Sobeys announced an end to its use of plastic bags at checkout counters across Canada by January 31. The company, which says it distributes 225 million carrier bags to customers each year in its 1500+ stores, will switch to paper bags in 2020. The nation's second-largest grocer, it will encourage the use of reusable bags too. The first supermarket giant in Canada to ditch plastic bags, Sobeys may offer preferential parking spaces to customers who bring their own bags, according to one report. When littered, plastic bags are a menace to wildlife on land and in the water. Thrown in the garbage, plastic occupies valuable landfill space as a contaminant.

## No more plastic, it's BYO H2O at SFO

As of August 20, water in disposal bottles will be banned from San Francisco Airport as part of its goal to be the first zero waste airport by 2021. No tenant, vendor or vending machine there will be allowed to proffer water in single-use plastic bottles. They can still purvey it in glass, aluminum or certified compostable containers. Travelers may bring empty plastic disposables to refill at 100 airport filling stations. But unopened, single use water bottles will be barred from SFO by security.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

The European Union touts "the Five E's" for reducing marine litter globally. They are: Engagement, Education, Empowerment, Engineering, and Enforcement. Read more about these five necessary steps [in this article](#) by Maria Spyraiki MEP.

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JUL 28 - AUG 4)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Comparing councils nets an array of answers (7/30)**

KentLive asked six questions of the four councils that govern in Kent, UK to determine their responses to littering, then published a comparison of the strategies.

### **Street theatre plays out in Noida, India (7/31)**

Brahmaputra Market was a stage for street theatre, a play by Those in Need NGO and HCL Foundation to illustrate why littering is a problem.

### **Viral video in Philippines prompts probe (7/31)**

An online video of men dumping bags of trash has prompted the Cebu Legal Office to probe the incident. Littering is blamed for blocking drains and flooding.

### **Three-minute video preaches anti-plastic (7/31)**

"Bring Back The Milkman!" is an [animated video](#) created by Californians Against Waste for sharing. It depicts life before society's insidious throwaway culture took hold.

### **Wilful littering the subject of this video (8/1)**

A video glorifying litter surfaced this week on YouTube. Time to give [this piece of work](#) and creator Andreas Schmitt your thumbs down and a choice comment.

### **Gulf island bathing in 'scary' plastic corals (8/1)**

Divers around Greece's Andros Island report finding plastic bags so voluminous and densely packed that they resemble coral. Their volunteer group Aegean Rebreath made the "scary" discovery during their mission to clean up plastic debris from the Aegean Sea.

### **Racy theme adopted to appeal to smokers (7/27)**

Louisiana's Keep Natchitoches Beautiful has a cheeky, kick-ass slogan to accompany its giveaway of free pocket ashtrays: "Keep Your Butts in Your Pants."