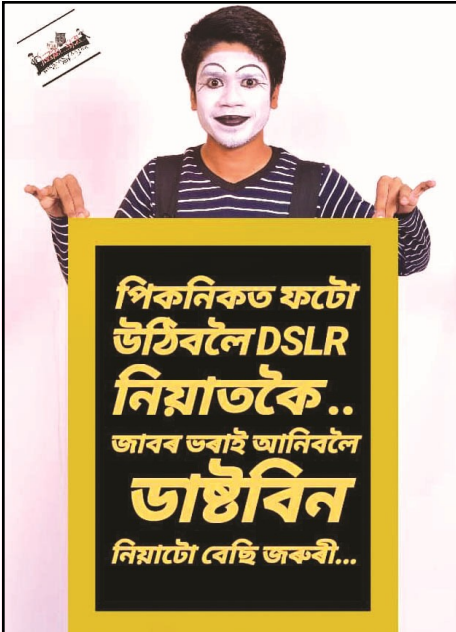


THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

January 5, 2020

Actions speak louder than words



After a full year of speaking out about protecting the environment in Assam, India, particularly at the Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary, activist Minangka Deka decided to raise his voice by going silent. He dresses as a mime and carries a placard urging right-thinking actions with slogans like "get your picnic spot cleaned before leaving it", "carry a dustbin" and "don't throw liquor bottles in the river."



Photo: Brendan Plonka

Taken in Toronto, this photo illustrates a by-product of the city's homelessness problem: a considerable mess left behind by someone surviving on the street. It also highlights two of Canada's biggest corporate purveyors of products commonly seen as roadside restaurant litter - McDonalds and Tim Hortons. Some jurisdictions hire homeless people to clean up. Win-win. Even a refund for returned cups and lids would be a welcome litter-control move if these companies cared to try.

Limerick debuts 'man with a van'

Moviegoers in Limerick, UK will get to see a new, animated short film that urges them to use only certified waste haulers and to eschew illicit outfits that dump garbage illegally. "Man With A Van" is the latest waste awareness spot funded jointly by the city and county councils. Cleaning up pet waste was a previous focus when the PSA 'Dog Pooh!' debuted in local cinemas.

Butt drive planned for this month

Luxembourg City is readying to do battle with cigarette butts on January 26. Facebook is the main organizing tool for [the drive](#) that's calling on citizens to collect littered butts in a bottle that day in readiness for an official count. Aiming to reinforce the idea in smokers that the capital and the Earth are not ashtrays, the campaign notes the city has innovative 'voting' ashtrays.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Every day say no to plastic bags" is the resounding message across Thailand after January 1 as the nation's retailers promote their halt to giving away plastic shopping bags in keeping with a nationwide ban [that just began](#). The law also bans the use of plastic microbeads in cosmetic products.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 22 - JAN 7)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

She slams door on this littering person (12/31)

A short [YouTube clip](#) captured a woman returning litter that she retrieved from a parking space to the driver who tossed it from a car parked in front of her store.

Call it an arresting New Year's Eve (1/2)

This Christmas had its spoilers. In Manila's Luneta Park 11 persons were arrested for littering on New Year's Eve. In Mountfield, Northern Ireland, [someone dumped toys](#) and festive goods that could have gone to charity.

Yuletide audit highlights holiday trash woes (12/28)

Filipino zero-waste campaigners at EcoWaste Coalition are now bracing for Black Nazarene, which traditionally has been a massive littering horror story. The group hopes this time people will 'take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but memories, kill nothing but time.'

California cafes begin to banish cups (12/25)

Prominent coffee chains in San Francisco are moving to a 'bring your own' culture and are testing mug sharing, reusable mugs and hefty deposits on paper cups. Some eateries are planning for a full phase-out of to-go bags, disposable cups and plastic. [In Berkeley](#) a new law took effect Wednesday that compels restaurants to charge 25 cents for every disposable beverage cup and to provide single use plastic items like cutlery and straws only when requested by the customer.