

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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

January 19, 2020



## [Littering closes wildlife preserve](#)

Access to Florida's Haulover Canal and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge was closed on Saturday, January 11 due to the amount of litter and garbage left behind by visitors. A clean up by volunteers and staff ensued, but officials admit it is harder and harder to keep up. The refuge holds a Trash Bash the second Saturday of every month. The next one is on February 8. As well as presenting hazards such as entanglement and suffocation of birds and other wildlife, litter is extra ugly when found in a nature.

## **Gum movie available for viewing**

TVO, Ontario's public television broadcaster, has packaged for online public viewing an important environmental film about the second most littered item in the world - chewing gum. "[Dark Side of the Chew](#)" by Andrew Nisker exposes the stickier side of the chewing gum business, the nuts and bolts of the edible plastics industry. *Litterland* founder Sheila White appeared in the 2014 film to talk about gum litter at Nisker's request.

## [Careful, watch out for that lamppost!](#)

Did you hear the one about the talking lamppost in Ireland? No, it's not a joke. A special motion-detecting audio device built into lampposts along popular dog walking paths in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County will politely tell passersby to bin their pet waste. The gadget will move from place to place on a rotating schedule to lampposts in Ballyogan, Marlay Park, Killiney Hill, Glenageary and Seapoint and elsewhere.

## [Dublin needs a fix, she says](#)

A general election candidate in Dublin Central has called for the launch of an enforcement campaign against dumping, a "high-energy awareness campaign" and an audit of bin locations and their adequacy after the Irish Business Against Litter national survey put Dublin at rock bottom in Ireland's ranking of clean cities and towns. While 70 per cent of Dublin fared okay in the latest survey and volunteers do a great job overall, the north inner city area is a chronic drag on the city's placement. It should be targeted for change, said Deirdre Duffy, of the Fine Gael party.

## [100% recycled vessels: EcoBoats](#)

Ismaël Essome Ebone gave littered plastic bottles a whole new life in 2011 when he started building fishing boats with them in his native Cameroon. Thus Madiba & Nature was born, a non-profit that collects bottles for EcoBoats.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

In 2000 in Dunmore Cave, Kilkenny, EI, a tour guide bent down to pick up a littered snack wrapper and spied a gleam in a crack in one of the walls. It turned out to be a Viking treasure trove of priceless jewelry, coins and one-of-a-kind items dating back 1,000 years. [Story.](#)

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (JAN 12 -19)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Spyware has its own special appeal (1/13)**

Hidden cameras are being employed on Candle Road in Berkeley County, SC in an effort to nab dumpers and hit them with fines ranging between \$100 and \$1,000.

### **Parents livid over state of school grounds (1/13)**

Parents and neighbours of a Boston school decried the human feces, syringes, liquor bottles and other trash on school grounds. They say the problem is out of hand and blame it on homeless people being there overnight.

### **Cigarette butt flicking brings heat to driver (1/14)**

A motorist "flicked out their cigarette butt" after passing and cutting in front of a Halton police officer, who later [tweeted](#), "Driver summonsed, plates seized, towed."

### **Weaning citizens off plastic one bag at a time (1/14)**

Getting a jump on Earth Day, Union County, NJ wants to initiate a massive public conversion away from plastic bags with its campaign, #MakeOneChangeUC. The county gives away reusable bags at events and is the first to join New Jersey's "[Choose to Reuse](#)" drive.

### **New York Democrats push for filter ban (1/17)**

If a bill introduced by Democratic Sen. Liz Krueger passes into law, the filters for cigarettes and electronic cigarettes would be banned in the State of New York as of January 1, 2022 for health and litter reasons.