

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

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

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## NSW looking for complaints

In New South Wales, AU they don't wait for people to complain, they actively look for them. In the MidCoast Region recently residents were urged to use the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [reporting service](#) to file reports about any littering they see. The first step is to [register](#). Described as a "powerful deterrent" because littering goes down as the feeling of being watched and the willingness to report goes up, the EPA scheme has led to 60,000 reports and more than 40,000 litter fines.

## **Cartoon video to tackle problem underfoot**

Brantford, Ontario has a cartoon video in the works, aiming to instill good dog waste disposal habits and stop the practice of flinging bagsful under bushes.

## **Toronto's enforcement challenge**

Toronto Mayor John Tory at a virtual Town Hall meeting on May 6 responded to our question about littered gloves and masks. "I think you'll understand the city the size of Toronto, when you have bylaw inspectors that are doing all kinds of different tasks, that are inspecting all kinds of things and watching for all kinds of behaviour including the self-distancing, that it isn't always possible for them to be standing beside everybody who is going drop a coffee cup on the ground," the mayor said. "People have to take an element of personal responsibility for not throwing this stuff on the ground. 'Put it in your pocket, take it home, put it in the garbage there,'" he said.

## **Ontario goes live with webpage May 12**

On Tuesday Ontario's first-ever Day of Action on Litter, while hampered by COVID-19 and cursory planning, will be marked with the unveiling of a [webpage](#) on May 12 and the social media hashtag #ActONlitterto to give enthusiasts a place to park their thoughts and ideas and photos of personal actions which they have taken to reduce waste.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

[Steve Spacek's](#) annual American State [Litter Score Card](#) came out on Earth Day. New York, Atlanta, Miami, New Orleans, Detroit, Baltimore, and Los Angeles, Nashville, Memphis, Las Vegas, Indianapolis, Houston and San Antonio are [among the top 15](#).

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAY 3 - 10)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Dog bag dispenser trial gets off the ground (5/5)**

The Shire of Gannawarra, AU has installed dog litter bag dispensers in key parks to test the effectiveness of free bags. Success of this trial banks on humans then properly disposing of their bagged dog waste and also trusts that vandals will leave the dispensers alone.

### **Law advanced to address PPE issue (5/5)**

To fix the problem of carelessly strewn PPE (personal protective equipment) in Long Island, a Nassau County politician has proposed an emergency law declaring PPE littering illegal and imposing a \$250 fine.

### **Uganda announces tougher measures (5/7)**

Local governments in Uganda who fail to implement all seven points of a new national littering law will see their funding reduced and withheld until they comply. Among offences, having a dirty or untidy house, uncut grass or premises without bins, also tossing from vehicles, etc.

### **Dublin experiences shocking rise in dumping (5/7)**

Authorities issued a warning about furniture, garbage and littered gloves and masks because instances of dumping in Dublin City Centre have increased by 25 per cent since the advent of the coronavirus pandemic.

### **Problem returns as soon as beaches reopen (5/8)**

No sooner did Florida beaches reopen than the littering resumed. On Cocoa Beach last weekend 13,000 pounds of littered trash [was retrieved](#) following visitors being allowed to return April 21. "Having them carry out what they bring in is all we ever ask," an official said.