THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND

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Above poster shows the eight points being hammered home by Clean Up Britain.

Universally required

An octet of sensible, doable actions to clean up Britain, developed by the group of the same name, could serve as a template for the nations of the world if the powers-that-be would adopt it: Severe fines, mandatory enforcement, including action on flyaway transport loads, plate recognition technology at fast food drive-thrus, strategically placed litter recognition cameras, no mowing over litter when cutting grass, building civic pride into the national curriculum and a new law that would lead to phasing out plastic-based chewing gum in favour of biodegradable gum. We wonder why this can't be universal.

A virtual art exhibit you'll want to see

This garbage gallery is open until January 31, 2021, a must-see exhibit for the waste-fascinated and litter curious. "Everywhere: Life in a littered world" displays art made of littered waste, tapping the talents of international artists to help draw attention to the problem. The exhibition from the seaside playground of Plymouth, UK is running in conjunction with MICRO2020, a conference on microplastics in the environment. Joanne Lee, artist and Senior Lecturer, School of Art and Design, Sheffield Hallam University and Rosemary Shirley, Associate Professor in the School of Museum Studies at the University of Leicester, co-curated the project which includes podcasts from leading scientists.

Oscar, the litter trap, gains fans

A cheap, litter-catching device made of PVC pipe, fencing and black plastic tubing, installed to keep a feeder creek litter-free has been named Oscar, was adopted by Catawba College in Salisbury and is part of the curriculum there.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pieces of chalk and instructive talk sum up the simple elements of an innovative Chalk of Shame campaign against cigarette butt littering from the Pune Ploggers in Pune, India. Volunteers draw chalk circles around butts they find on the ground and write chalk messages to the littering smokers, which seems to be shaming them into using a bin.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (November 22 - 29) Some of what made our News Reel this week

Surfrider Kaua'i is totally onboard, of course (11/24) OFV stands for Ocean Friendly Visitor, a new, six-point program launched by the Kaua'i chapter of Surfrider Foundation. Basics, such as doing beach cleanups, reducing plastic, PPE etiquette, avoiding "single use foodware" will deem a visitor to be an OFV.

Zero Waste PA bill mired in politics (11/24) It has slim chance of passing, but a Zero Waste PA bill advanced by the Democrats in Pennsylvania calls for tougher dumping fines and plastic production controls. South Korean litter art gets some attention (11/26) A South Korean group, Clean Hikers, earned itself a TV spot on BBC for turning litter they'd collected into art. Plastic is polluting Hong Kong's beaches (11/26) Hong Kong's beaches are sick from massive plastic pollution, says the Coastal Watch Project. The team of seven led by WWF-Hong Kong concluded from fish bite marks on litter that plastic is getting into the food chain. Dubai cleaning up desert amid camel deaths (11/27) Researchers from UAE have identified "polybezoars" -big, compacted balls of plastic found in the intestines of grazing animals, as the cause of death in desert wildlife, with camels being particularly vulnerable. The team examined 30,000 camel carcasses and determined 300 of them had died from eating littered plastic, or one in 100. Dubai began a 5-month desert cleanup in October.