

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

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Electronic eyes discourage littering

Four main streets of Barone Canavese in the Piedmont Region of Italy have been retrofitted with a sophisticated video surveillance system at a cost of 400 thousand Euros, a cost shared by the region and the town. Put in place to curb littering and theft, these electronic eyes can read licence plates in the dark and verify that the vehicle has its safety and insurance permits. Cameras are positioned along via Candia, via Roma, via Orio and via Canonico Frola.

Bin-It gum litter road show now virtual

The hugely successful and long-running chewing gum litter reduction program *Bin It!* in Ireland has gone virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic crunch. Funded by Mars-Wrigley and governments since 2006 the [Gum Litter Task Force](#) program morphed from in-person, actor-led workshops to *Bin It! Hit Record* - videos starring characters Doc and Taylor and litter lessons including the study of behavioural change and science. It began hitting 47 secondary schools in Galway last week, and in Cork, Tipperary and Waterford [as well](#). Since its inception, the anti-gum litter initiative has visited 580 schools reaching 64,000 students.



Highway bins are making a difference

Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs say their pilot program of 20 bins at lay-bys along 13 miles of A82 highway is a great success, diverting 4,000 bags of litter.

Mask picker-upper wins praise



MARC DUNN

Marc Dunn, a Toronto community engagement specialist, gained some well-deserved positive press for his dogged collecting of strewn face masks while out walking his neighbourhood, more than 4,000 of them since April 2020. Being seen

doing the work initiated conversations about the unfortunate habit of mask littering and his other main concern -- the entanglement threat to birds and small wildlife from the mask's elastic ties.

Plastic nurdle hunt organized

Canadian non-profit [A Greener Future](#) rallied 47 volunteers to find and remove microplastic "nurdles" from eight southern Ontario beach locations during the Great Global Nurdle Hunt. See their [results here](#) and [photos here](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

Australian charity No More Butts is testing and [touting oyster mushrooms](#) as a potential antidote to the messy litter problem of poorly discarded cigarette butts, saying the fungi "digest" the butt's main property -- cellulose, a form of plastic.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (NOV 7 - 14)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Holiday headaches include littering [\(11/9\)](#)

The Deepavali (Diwali) holiday left Malaysian scenic spots trashed with tourist "garbage overflow" despite twice the bins and more frequent emptying of them.

Student attacks balloons [\(11/9\)](#)

Research by high school student Nisha Singhi, 14, has inspired the October introduction of a bill in Michigan seeking a \$250 penalty for knowingly releasing balloons that are filled with a gas lighter than air.

Loch Lomond likes Adopt-A-Bin concept [\(11/9\)](#)

An Adopt-A-Bin program in Loch Lomond is lessening the litter, locals say. People look after a bin and check periodically to ensure it's neat and not being abused. This seems to coax out more compliance and respect.

Hull ratchets up the enforcement warnings [\(11/11\)](#)

Fines totalling £5,268 were levied in April and May for littering offences in Hull, UK against 15 people, who also acquired criminal records because they ignored an initial request to pay a fixed penalty. Council promises to continue its no mercy, tough love policy.

Bali acknowledges a waste emergency [\(11/10\)](#)

Bali has a garbage crisis on its hands. Governor Wayan Koster declared a "waste emergency" Monday and ordered regional officials to do something about it.