

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

litterpreventionprogram.com

December 19, 2021

May your Christmas holiday season be really neat.



Happy New Year 2022!

www.litterpreventionprogram.com
Sheila White

[Litterbugs should be 'crucified', says councillor](#)

Dwight Crawford, a councillor in St James, Jamaica, leaves no ambiguity when expressing his opinion of people who litter. "We should start to blow this thing up and make it known that when you dump in the wrong place, you will be crucified for it," he said. He complained of public playing fields becoming garbage dumping grounds, but said residents aren't the only cause of the mess. Businesses are dumping too. "We need to nail them to the cross," Crawford told his municipal council mates while defending the efforts of national solid waste agency, NSWMA, which shouldn't be blamed for "nasty people's poor habits," he said.

[Private enforcement tactics raise questions](#)

Privatized litter enforcement is on the hot seat in Causeway Coast and Glen, Northern Ireland. Councillor John McAuley, a critic of Waste Investigations Support & Enforcement (WISE), says the company targets smokers too heavily at the expense of other littering offences, pointing to 54.22% of the fines issued for littering a cigarette butt (893 fines), 13.36% for littering a rolled up cigarette (220 fines) and only 1.52% for dog fouling (25 fines). Officers ignore other litter types because smokers represent easy pickings for them and the quickest road to company profits, he said.

[UNEP cautions of severe threat](#)

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) again shines a harsh light on pollution problems caused by plastic. To impress upon the world the urgent need to address the severe threat posed by plastic pollution, two reports released in October, [From Pollution to Solution](#) and [Drowning in Plastics](#), resound the alarm over marine litter and plastic contamination. In 2017 UNEP founded Clean Seas, now supported by 63 signatory nations. Ahead of its fifth anniversary in February comes Clean Seas 2.0: From Source-to-Sea, a guide for the next generation of education, which will hone in on problematic plastics such as packaging, ghost fishing gear, tires and textiles. Of the 11 million tons of plastic pollution that enter the sea every year, 2.7 million tons come from rivers, according to Clean Seas, plastic the group would classify as unnecessary, avoidable and problematic. Its project will assemble scientific evidence proving the urgency of the situation and need for action.

DID YOU KNOW?

Encorp Atlantic Inc., a beverage container recycling company in New Brunswick, Canada sponsors [Community Clean Up grants](#) under its [Recycling Heroes](#) program, founded in 2020. This year 20 schools and non-profit groups received grants of \$500.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (DEC 12 - 19)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Scotland begins a 90-day consultation [\(12/14\)](#)

Fly-tipping, the term for dumping waste to dodge tipping fees, is under the microscope in Scotland. A public consultation period is running from December 13 to March 2022. Comments will inform the country's National Litter and Fly-tipping Strategy, an update to its 2014 plan. The government has outlined proposals for action on themes of behaviour change, services, infrastructure and enforcement.

UN touts a bio substitute for plastic [\(12/14\)](#)

A UN Food and Agricultural Organization report advocates replacing conventional non-biodegradable polymers used in the agricultural and fishing industries with biodegradable bioplastics to reduce litter harm.

Baton Rouge fines target the wallets [\(12/16\)](#)

Come January 1 the fine for littering in East Baton Rouge will rise tenfold to \$500 from \$50, Metro Council has deemed. An enforcement plan is to follow.

Dine with rats in New York [\(12/16\)](#)

Outdoor dining coupled with bulging, restaurant garbage bags piled high on sidewalks are being blamed in part for New York City's rat explosion, which has grown by 15% since the start of the pandemic.

DEAR READERS: *Litterland* is taking a holiday break.