

# THIS WEEK IN “LITTERLAND”

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

March 13, 2022



## [A&W to use paper cups in trial](#)

The Butterfly Cup, the coffee cup invented in Dublin to replace wax-lined, non-reusable, plastic-lidded beverage cups, has been adopted by A&W Canada restaurants to test as a pilot program in Toronto, it was announced this week. Starting this month the paper cup is being introduced to A&W customers in Canada’s largest city. Made from paper certified by the German-based Forest Stewardship Council as “sustainable”, the cup is already used in East Asia and Europe. It is billed as a ‘compostable’ item.

The Butterfly Cup is an important innovation, but it doesn’t address the product litter problem. Fast food restaurants should be investing in litter prevention messages at the counter, on receipts and on packaging itself.

## [Canada Post on hot seat for junk](#)

The Town of Ajax, Ontario is upset that the national postal service won’t allow “Don’t Litter. Dispose of mail at home.” stickers on the side of Canada Post community outdoor mailboxes. Policy forbids decals on its mailboxes, a postal official said. The response left councillors fuming because the litter problem is a result of unaddressed advertising the post office delivers to mail slots whether individuals want it or not.

## [In the can](#)



Above, the 4-H Club in Sussex, Delaware holds a litter [bin painting contest](#) for its clubs.

## [Dealing with PPE in Istanbul](#)

Istanbul, population 16 million, is facing a pandemic-related waste crisis of staggering proportions. DW, Germany’s international broadcaster Deutsche Welle, featured a [TV news item](#) about the problem stemming from the massive accumulation of non-reusable gloves, masks, hospital gowns and medical waste such as syringes going to landfill sites.

## [Special words for St. Patrick’s Day](#)

No Styrofoam or glass allowed at St. Patrick’s Day festivities in Savannah, Georgia. A Saint Paddy’s Day crackdown, instant \$50 fines for littering will apply, said a special events official, who described the city’s squares and streets as “priceless jewels”. In keeping with the motto to “Keep it green for St. Patrick’s Day”, there are free garbage bags given away and plenty of bins for people’s trash.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Village of Clive, Alberta, declined to sell a piece of public land to the woman who lives next door to it, D. McGrandle. She [reported](#) to council the property was attracting litter and loitering and she wanted to purchase it so that she could keep it tidy.

## **HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAR 6 -13)**

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **New study involves octopuses and litter (3/9)**

A published study in [Marine Pollution Bulletin](#) raises concern about the use of litter by octopuses for shelter. Citizens scientists assisted a Brazilian/Italian team in documenting how the creatures have adapted to the prevalence of litter in the ocean, which researchers see as a negative consequence that requires more study.

### **Litter cash flows for cities in California (3/9)**

California is serious about helping its towns and cities make strides at litter-ridding. The city of Indio will receive \$4,997,670 for an aggressive attack under the Clean California banner to remove litter, create jobs and beautify the state. Indio plans to clean up a three-quarter-mile thoroughfare, add art, trees and solar bins.

### **Anticipating the hordes visiting resorts (3/10)**

Ocean City is gearing up for its second annual “Litter Free OC” initiative: a trilogy of tactics involving cleanup, messaging and enforcement. The staff sees persistence paying and notes there are fewer litter complaints now.

### **New lakefront cleanup crew in town (3/9)**

Whitby, Ontario has hired a seasonal cleanup team committed to sprucing up beaches for tourists. The town will give residents bags, gloves and waste haulage if they commit to adopt a public space for two years.