

# Lockdown Litter Louts

Niamh Sharkey

## You Think Dog Fouling is bad? - What about the LITTERING?

**Litter is fast becoming a serious problem around our countryside roads and popular beauty spots.**

PPE, single-use plastic, takeaway packaging, glass and bags of rubbish are all being discarded mindlessly without a thought to our wildlife and farm animals.

Even in Seskinore Forest, on a short walk around the path you can find glass bottles, plastic bags, sweet wrappers and other small things like little bits of tissue or baby wipes!!

One local dog owner regularly picks up rubbish during her daily walk and brings it to the bin in the car park. Another lady said, "My children were taught to bring their rubbish home in their pockets."

Recently, dog fouling has been high-lighted on social media, and whilst this is a problem, litter of other kinds needs addressed.

The 'Green Spot' on the Omagh to Fintona road is always littered with rubbish and is a horrible sight to see. A field beside it also has rubbish at the gate on the inside.



**A cardboard cup in a field at the 'Green Spot'**

As part of a school assignment I have been noting the amount of litter when I am out and about. On the Blackfort Road there are always wrappings from a well-known takeaway restaurant, that someone has just thrown out of their car.

In Seskinore Forest the glass bottles I found weren't any old bottles - they were beer and alcohol bottles. This means that it is older people who are

leaving this behind, and if they have children, they aren't setting a good example.

I have watched a video about people who throw things out of their cars being watched by 'littercams.' Maybe this would be a good idea in areas like this.



**Is this why it's called the 'Green Spot?' Green rubbish?**

The environment is weakening every time someone throws rubbish. It needs our help to clean it.



**Litter collected at Seskinore Forest**

### How we can help

- Pick up litter
- Dispose of items of PPE properly
- Keep some bags and gloves in your car
- Get a litter picker
- Report car registrations if we see litter being thrown out

Each day, with you helping out, the planet will become healthier and much more pleasant to live on. Together, we can help restore the beauty of the Earth to make it a better place to live.