



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
KENT

viewpoint

KENT

Autumn 2008

Since 1929, the Kent Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE Kent) has fought to preserve the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of rural Kent by encouraging sustainable use of land and other natural resources in town and country.

This newsletter gives highlights of the issues we face in Kent and our current work, **which can only continue with your support.**

'Stop the Drop' Campaign Special Edition Viewpoint

By CPRE Kent's Publicity Officer
Gemma Watts



What is CPRE's Stop the Drop campaign?

In April this year CPRE National Office launched Stop the Drop, a three-year campaign which aims to turn around the 500% increase in littering of the last 40 years.

CPRE Kent is actively supporting this campaign, by taking practical steps to change people's attitudes towards litter and fly-tipping.

The Stop the Drop campaign is now in its 6th month but there is still a great

deal to be done to raise awareness, despite the fact that MPs get more letters complaining about litter and dog fouling than anything else!

Our local councils are daily forced to spend time, money and energy on ridding our streets and our landscapes from the needless blight of littering and fly-tipping.

With your help, CPRE Kent can raise awareness, change behaviour and restore our Kentish countryside to its former beauty for all to enjoy.



Take Action!



How can I support CPRE's Stop the Drop campaign?

To be able to make a difference, we need your help!

Our National President Bill Bryson said earlier this month: "I know that we're getting to the time of year when the dark nights become longer and wet, and frosty or even snowy ground makes it more difficult to feel motivated about hitting the streets, hedgerows and beaches of your local area for a litter pick."

I would urge you not to feel bad if you feel your enthusiasm challenged a little bit! Just keep up your good work however you can, whether outdoors tackling litter or indoors writing to and emailing the people responsible for dealing with it - it couldn't be more true that every action, large or small, makes a big contribution to our campaign".

Log on to: www.cpre.org.uk/campaigns/stop-the-drop to send an email to your local MP urging them to support our parliamentary motion!

Give the Gift of Membership this Christmas

**CPRE Kent, 3 Evegate Park Barn,
Station Road, Smeeth, Nr. Ashford,
Kent TN25 6SX**



Get Involved

Other ways you can actively get involved with our campaign are:

Report a litter or fly-tipping problem in your area to your local council.

Join LitterAction at:

www.litteraction.org.uk where you can find information on Kent groups of litter pickers.

CPRE Kent's Thoughts

Join CPRE Kent! Just by becoming a member, you can make a real difference. Littering and fly-tipping is vandalising our beautiful Kent countryside. CPRE Kent has a threefold solution to our county's waste problems:

Higher rates of local recycling - our waste needs to be recycled rather than sent to landfill or incinerated. It needs to be dealt with as locally as possible.

Less rubbish in the first place - We can all generate less rubbish by, for example, buying local food from farmers' markets.

Support our campaign and put an end to litter and fly-tipping in Kent!

Biodegradability



Have you ever seen anyone drop a banana skin on the pavement assuming it's ok as "it's biodegradable"?

It may surprise you to learn that it can actually take up to 2 years for banana skins or orange peel to biodegrade naturally!

Degradability depends on climate and circumstances, but under unfavourable conditions estimated time spans of other materials are as follows:

Brown paper bag—up to 5 months

Cigarette butts – up to 2 years

Plastic bags –10-20 years

Tin cans – 50 years

Aluminium cans – 80-100 years

Plastic bottles – indefinitely

Glass – indefinitely

Rubbish Fact!



Kent households produce more than 800,000 tonnes of domestic waste each year. That's enough to fill all three lanes of the M25 with refuse lorries parked nose to tail!



MAKE A DIFFERENCE • PROTECT KENT • JOIN TODAY