



VICRecycle

VICRECYCLE FACTSHEET

VICTORIA'S CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Information for Local Pubs & Bottle Shops.

As part of its *Recycling Victoria* initiative, the Victorian Government will deliver a Container Deposit Scheme. The Government is currently considering what type of scheme to implement.

The type of scheme adopted matters to hoteliers and bottle shops because:

- ♻️ **Different schemes mean different cost impacts on drinks for hoteliers to absorb or pass on.**
- ♻️ **Different commercial opportunities for pubs and local community organisations to make money or reduce waste costs.**

VicRecycle has been formed by the beverage industry to work with the AHA to advocate for a **Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme** to ensure:

- ♻️ Significantly lower price impacts on drinks for consumers than other schemes.
- ♻️ Maximum economic benefits for the community (including pubs, local community organisations and charities) through commercial opportunities or taking part in returns.

How does it work?



Under a Container Deposit Scheme, a 10 cent Refund Amount (including GST) is paid to members of the public when they return each eligible container, such as cans, bottles and PET containers



These containers are collected at one of hundreds of Refund Points across the state and recycled.



Used cans, bottles and containers that you now pay waste collectors to remove from your premises will have a value of 10 cents per container.



Commercial Opportunities For Local Pubs



Recycling Containers Consumed on Premises

- ♻️ Pubs can benefit by simply collecting containers from beverages consumed on premises and taking them to a Refund Point, to receive the 10 cents back per container.
- ♻️ Local pubs with commercial contracts for waste removal can reduce costs by renegotiating with their waste collector, using the value of the containers to reduce waste removal costs.



Pubs as Donation Points

- ♻️ Under a Community (Producer Responsibility) Model, any organisation can act as a donation point.
- ♻️ Donated containers are either dropped off to a registered Refund Point or collected by a Refund Point operator.
- ♻️ Pubs (especially those with bottle shops attached) could host donation bottle drives in conjunction with local community groups to drive foot traffic into store/venue. They can also donate the containers consumed in the hotel to the community group to supplement the bottle drive volume.

For example: if a pub is supporting sporting/ community events by running BBQ or a bar, add on a collection cage for donations. The proceeds can then go back to the sporting team or to a local charity.

- ♻️ Some Refund Point operators will either collect the containers for free or minimal cost, or may donate the use of trailers and/or cages, to encourage returns to be made at their Refund Point.



Waste Removal

- ♻️ With used containers attracting a value of 10 cents each, there are many options to maximise value to you and/ or reduce waste removal costs at the same time.
- ♻️ It's important you're aware of this new value and think about what you want to do with it. You may want to use it to reduce waste costs, increase involvement in the community or promote community engagement.
- ♻️ Don't sign your value over to the waste operator without understanding all the options.



Pubs as Refund points

- ♻️ Under a Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme, local hotels and community organisations can also apply to be a Refund Point.
- ♻️ This means customers drop off their containers and receive 10 cents back per container. To collect and sort these containers, the pub or community organisation is paid a handling fee per container, approximately 6.5 cents per container. All eligible containers must be accepted and sorted.

Under this scheme, local pubs can become Return Points and collect a combined 16.5 cents per container for beverage containers consumed on premises.

Three Reasons a Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme is Better for Pubs



1. Lower Costs

There will be a cost impact of the Container Deposit Scheme, this cost will be passed on to packaged drinks by manufacturers.

A Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme will be delivered at a lower cost than other schemes, meaning a lower price impact on packaged drinks.



2. Better Commercial Opportunities

Victorian pubs that sign up as Refund Points will receive **almost double the commercial returns** on handling fees if a Community (Producer Responsibility) Model is adopted.

In QLD, where a Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme operates, small businesses including pubs can return a handling fee of approx 6.5 cents per container.

In NSW, where a Waste (Monopoly) Scheme operates, the net handling fee paid is just 3.5 cents. And small businesses must pay to lease mandatory equipment from the waste operator.



3. Greater Economic Benefits for the Local Community

Every pub plays an important role in their local community. A **Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme** means the economic benefits of a Container Deposit Scheme flow through to communities, charities and local jobs, rather than to large commercial waste operators.

Interstate, this scheme has meant community organisations such as the Lions Club in Cooktown has been able to fund motorised wheelchairs to people with a disability and local small businesses have been able to give new jobs to long-term unemployed people. To see these stories, visit the [Change Makers](#) link below.

How can I get involved?

The Victorian Government is currently deciding what type of Container Deposit Scheme it adopts, including undertaking community consultation.

We need your help to make the case for a **Community (Producer Responsibility) Scheme** that ensures lower costs, delivers new commercial opportunities for pubs and small businesses and benefits local communities.

Write to us at *VicRecycle* to register your interest for more information: info@vicrecycle.com.au

More information

QLD's Containers for Change have put together Change Makers – a series of community organisations and small businesses which are benefiting from the Community (Producer Responsibility) Model.

Visit here: <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/change-makers>

For more information, please contact: info@vicrecycle.com.au