

Vermont's Beverage Container and Redemption Law ("Bottle Bill Law")

- Beverages under the law are "beer or other malt beverages and mineral waters, mixed wine drink, soda water and carbonated soft drinks in liquid form and intended for human consumption. As of January 1, 1990 'beverage' also shall mean liquor."
- Manufacturers and/or Distributors are required to register all brands to be sold in Vermont prior to sale in Vermont at: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/BottleBill/>. As part of the registration process, the manufacturer/distributor must identify the pick-up agent who will pick-up redeemed containers from retail stores and certified redemption centers.
- Every beverage container sold in Vermont must be labeled with deposit information, as required by 10 V.S.A. Chapter 53 (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/10/053>), including a 5¢ deposit on on all non-liquor beverage containers, and a 15¢ deposit on all liquor containers larger than 50ml.
- Manufacturers and/or Distributors may not refuse to pick up from a retailer that sells its product or certified redemption center any correctly labeled, empty beverage container of the kind, size, and brand sold by the manufacturer or distributor, or refuse to pay the retailer or a person operating a redemption center the refund value of a beverage container.
- Manufacturers and/or Distributors shall reimburse retailers/certified redemption centers 3.5¢ per container for containers of beverage brands that are part of a commingling program and 4¢ per container for containers of beverage brands that are not part of a commingling program.

Other Useful Web Sites/Contacts:

Vermont Department of Liquor Control, <http://liquorcontrol.vermont.gov/>

Baker Distributing, <http://www.bakerdistributing.com/>

Pepsi Ventures, <http://www.pepsibottlingventures.com/locations/>

Farrell Distributing, <http://www.farrelldistributing.com/index2.shtml>

Coca Cola of Northern New England, <http://ccnne.com/>

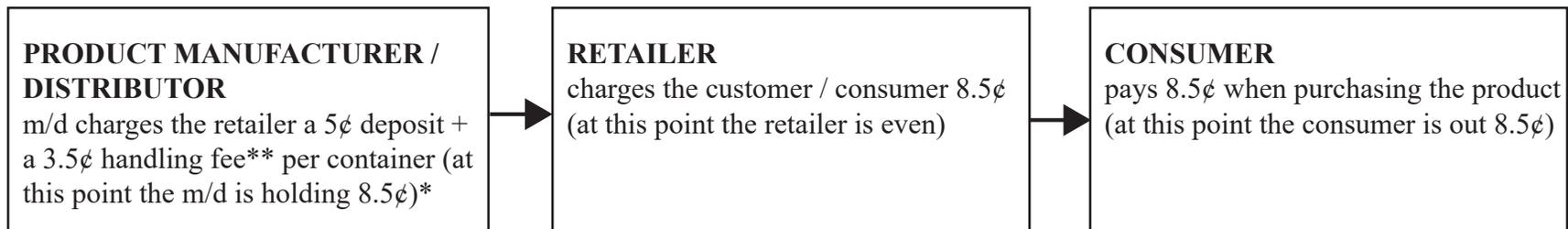
Vermont Retail & Grocers Association, <http://www.vtrga.org/>

TOMRA, Terry Heffernan (terry.heffernan@tomra.com); Josh Nelson (josh.nelson@tomra.com)

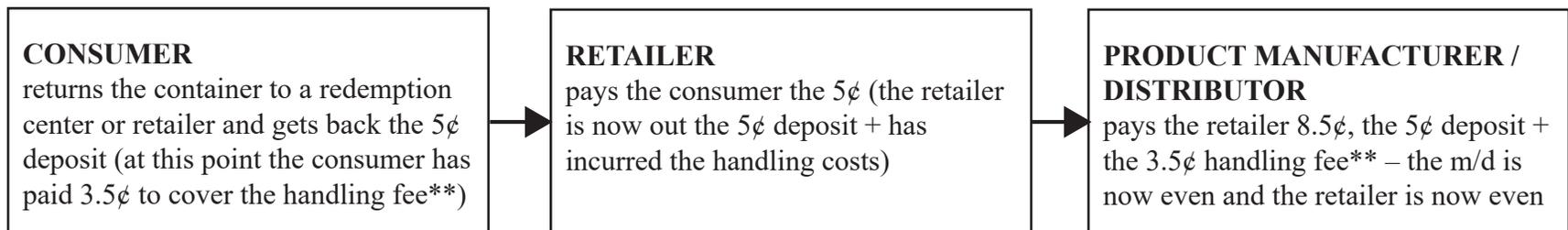
Vermont Commingling Group, LLC, Kevin Dietly (kdietly@nbenvironmental.com)

Vermont's Bottle Bill - How the Money Flows

STEP 1: SALE OF PRODUCT



STEP 2: RETURN OF THE CONTAINER



In summary, costs are passed on all the way through the system so that it is the consumer paying the costs associated with recycling: i.e., the handling fee.

*Although not required by law, most beverage manufacturers/distributors pass the handling fee per container onto the retailers, and retailers pass it onto the consumers.

**For manufacturers/distributors not participating in the commingling program, the handling fee is 4¢ instead of 3.5¢.