

BOTTLE BILL FACT SHEET: RETAILERS AND REDEMPTION CENTERS

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."
- Certified Redemption Centers are required to take back all clean, unbroken empty containers marked with the Vermont 5¢ or 15¢ refund message if the product is sold in Vermont.
- Retailers and Redemption Centers who have not requested to become a Certified Redemption Center are only required to take back covered containers from brands that they sell.
- 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 handling fees of 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.
- Third-party pick-up agents work directly for the manufacturers and/or distributors. Retailers and redemption centers need to contact the distributors and/or manufacturers directly when issues arise over the course of doing business with the third-party pick-up agent.
- Redemption Centers that handle more than 250,000 containers per year are required to commingle according to an Agency-approved commingling agreement.
- Retailers may request an exemption from redeeming Bottle Bill containers by completing an exemption request form and demonstrating that an alternate redemption location exists that serves the public need (including convenience for customers) at:
(http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wmp/SolidWaste/Documents/RetailerExemption_Form.pdf)
- Get more information about Vermont's Bottle Bill at: <http://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/solid/product-stewardship/bottle-bill>

Other Useful Web Sites/Contacts:

- Vermont Department of Liquor Control, <http://liquorcontrol.vermont.gov/>
- Vermont Department of Taxes, Jim Whitehouse (james.whitehouse@vermont.gov)
- TOMRA, Peter Arquette (peter.arquette@tomra.com)
- Vermont Commingling Group, LLC, Bree Dietly (bdietly@nbenvironmental.com)
- Baker Distributing, <http://www.bakerdistributing.com/>
- Pepsi Bottling Company, <http://www.pepsico.com/>
- Pepsi Brattleboro, <http://pepsibrattleboro.com/>
- Farrell Distributing, <https://www.farrelldistributing.com/>
- Coca Cola of Northern New England, <http://ccne.com/>
- Vermont Retail & Grocers Association, <http://www.vtrga.org/>

Waste Management & Prevention Division
Solid Waste Program
1 National Life Drive, Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704

