

recycle right victoria

say yes to a clean cds



Information for consumers, community groups, sports clubs, charities about Victoria's container deposit scheme

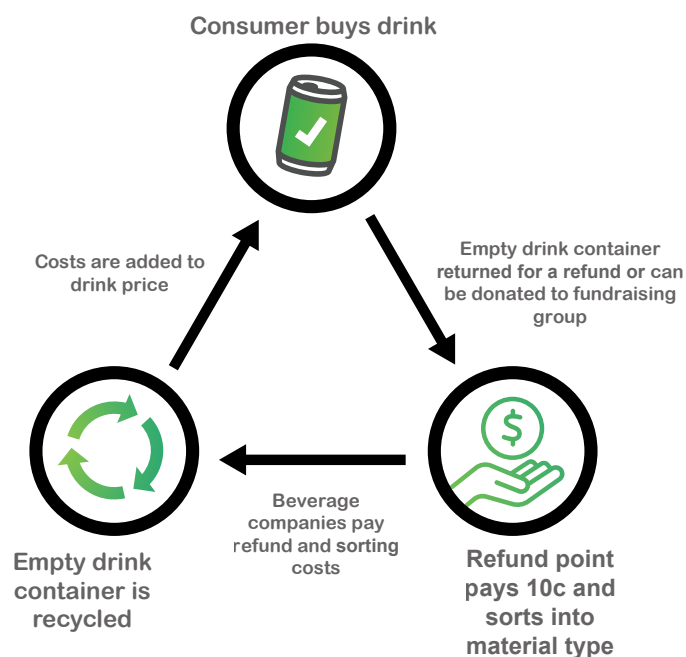
The Victorian Government has announced that by 2023, the state will have a container deposit scheme (CDS) that will allow Victorians to swap empty drink cans and bottles for a 10c refund. It aims to reduce litter and improve recycling. It is considering two options to run the scheme and will make a decision in the first quarter of 2021.

The first is where the makers of Coke, XXXX Gold and Powerade who opposed the scheme, run the CDS as a 'producer responsibility' model where they have full control. Based on the schemes they run in Qld and WA, this means fewer refund points and opening hours, minimising the number of returns and the beverage companies' cost of having to pay 10c to customers and handling fees to recyclers (further info on both options overleaf).

We want the VIC Government to implement the second option - the proven 'split responsibility' model, to ensure maximum convenience and achieve the biggest number of beverage containers returned and refunds back to consumers, communities and charities - and the greatest environmental benefits.

How will the CDS work?



- Victorians will be able to deposit eligible drink cans and bottles at collection points in exchange for a refund. Collection points may include reverse vending machines as well as local shops and large depot sites.
- Charities and not for profits will be able to seek donations of empty containers and redeem them for a refund. They (and private groups) can also run refund points and generate income through receipt of a handling fee for each container.
- Beverage producers, such as the makers of Coke, XXXX Gold and Powerade, are responsible for funding refunds and associated scheme costs.



What type of CDS will Victoria choose?

All Australian states and territories have a container deposit scheme in place or have committed to introduce one. This means Victoria has an opportunity to learn from others' experiences and design a CDS that suits Victoria and will deliver the best results.

There are two types of CDS being assessed by the government:

-  A **split responsibility** model, balancing responsibility for the scheme between one or more Network Operators (eg, recycling companies) that run collection points and a Scheme Coordinator consisting of industry, community and environmental experts which collects funds, data and undertakes audits; and
-  A **producer responsibility** model that combines the roles of network operator and scheme coordinator into one entity consisting of representatives from beverage, manufacturing and other industries.

Split responsibility model vs producer responsibility model

Like all the other Australian schemes, the Victorian CDS will be funded by the beverage industry. It is important to understand the capacity and key design features offered under each scheme in order to decide the type of scheme that will work for Victoria.

Split responsibility (NSW)	Producer responsibility (QLD and WA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Governance is split between network operator/s and scheme coordinator (consisting of beverage and other industry representatives, community and environmental experts) ✓ Removes ability of beverage companies to limit collection rates in order to protect profits ✓ Network operators are collection and recycling experts, so they are driven to collect as many containers as possible because it is their revenue source ✓ More collection points and longer opening hours ✓ Business friendly arrangements for charities wanting to run large depots ✓ High return rates, as successfully achieved in NSW scheme ✓ Lower impact on beverage prices and cost per container returned ✓ Significant commitment to transparency ✓ Supported by environmental, charity, waste management, recycling and municipal associations who campaigned for the CDS in Victoria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Governed by producer responsibility organisation (consisting of beverage, manufacturing and other industry representatives) ✗ Incentivised to minimise cost, resulting in reduced convenience, fewer refund points and limited opening hours ✗ Higher cost on beverage prices and per container returned ✗ Critical environmental and accessibility standards not met in other states (QLD & WA) ✗ Relies on 'commercial-in-confidence' rules to limit transparency ✗ Supported by beverage producers who campaigned against the introduction of the CDS in Victoria

The CDS in practice: how it works in other states

NSW has the split responsibility model while QLD and WA have the producer responsibility model supported by the big drinks companies.

Achieving the highest number of container returns and refunds is one of the most important features of a successful CDS. Evidence from schemes throughout the world demonstrates that providing refund collection points at the most convenient locations, such as retail outlets, is the most effective way to maximise convenience for consumers.

Refund points

QLD has less than half the number of refund points per capita as NSW and most are more inconvenient than in NSW.

Opening hours

QLD refund points are open three times less than those in NSW. WA is the least accessible scheme.

Sources:

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/boomerangalliance/pages/4002/attachments/original/1602744531/WACDS_Standards_Compare_final1.pdf?1602744531

https://www.tec.org.au/qld_container_refund_scheme_needs_major_reform

How can you say yes to a clean CDS?

- *Contact your local MP*
- *Send a letter to your local paper (see below)*
- *Sign our petition*

You can join our 49,000+ supporters and sign the [Boomerang Alliance Change.org petition](#)

Key points for your letter:

** I support a Container Deposit Scheme that will maximise the reduction of container litter; increase recycling; create more business opportunities and employment; stimulate social enterprise and encourage community fundraising through collecting cans and bottles.*

** This can be best achieved by the 'split responsibility model' and not giving the beverage industry full control over the scheme as in Qld which has had serious problems with convenience and inefficient refund points. It's important for our local area that collection points for consumers to get their refund are convenient and we have confidence our environment will be cleaned up.*

** The big beverage companies have opposed a CDS for many years and we need businesses that have a proven record in achieving recycling to roll out collection points. It's vital Victoria's CDS is a success for our economy and environment.*

Visit the [Recycle right Victoria website](#) for more information