

recycle right victoria

say yes to a clean cds



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

The Victorian Government has announced that by 2023, Victoria will have a container deposit scheme (CDS) that will allow Victorians to swap empty drink cans and bottles for a 10c refund. It is considering two ways to run the scheme.

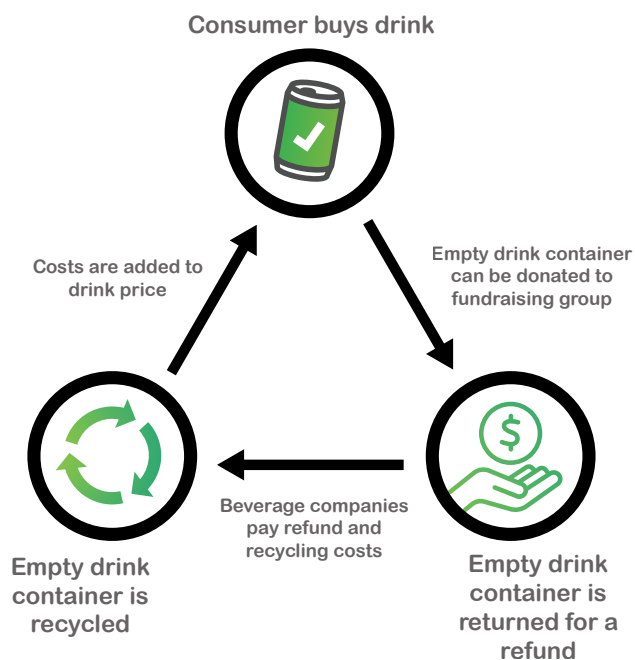
The makers of Coke, XXXX Gold and Powerade want to run the CDS in VIC as a 'producer responsibility' model. This means fewer refund point depots and opening hours, minimising the number of returns and the beverage companies' cost of having to pay 10c to customers and handling fees to recyclers.

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

Here's why.

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 could 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.

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 (i.e. recycling companies) and a Scheme Coordinator consisting of industry, community and environmental experts; and



A **producer responsibility** model that combines the role of network operator and scheme coordinator into one 'Product Responsibility Organisation' 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 as NSW.

Opening hours

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

How can you say yes to a clean CDS?

Have your say

After much research the government says it prefers the split responsibility model but wants to hear your views. Public consultation is now open for Victorians to have their say about the CDS at engage.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme.

Read our [11 key points to include in your submission](#).

Sign our petition

You can also join our 44,000+ supporters and sign the Boomerang Alliance Change.org petition to [Stop Coke and Lion taking over our 10c drink container deposit schemes](#).

For more information, visit the [Recycle right Victoria website](#).