

# Container refund scheme



**Reverse Vending Machines** will be one collection method under the **CRS**



## The problem with drink containers

- They are the second most commonly littered item (after cigarette butts) with approximately 2.4 billion generated in Queensland alone.
- They pollute the natural environment and litter streets, parks and waterways.
- Nearly all drink containers can be recycled however most end up in landfill, and are not recycled.

## What the Queensland Government is doing

The Queensland Government is introducing a container refund scheme for Queensland.

The public consultation on the scheme received 2,600 submissions with the majority of people supporting its implementation.

Under the scheme, empty eligible drink containers with an approved refund mark can be returned to a container refund point for a 10 cent refund.

## What containers are included?

Most drink containers between 150ml and 3 litres will be eligible for a refund under the scheme.

Some drink containers will be exempt, such as containers for plain milk, wine and pure juice. This is because the focus of the scheme is on away-from-home drink containers which are the most commonly littered.

## When will the refund scheme start?

The Queensland Container Refund Scheme will start on 1 July 2018.

You will be able to start getting a 10 cent refund for eligible containers from this date.

## Eligible containers between 150ml and 3L

- Fruit Juice—pure\*
- Flavoured milk\*
- Carbonated soft drinks
- Non-carbonated soft drinks such as energy drinks and sports drinks
- Vegetable juice—pure\*
- Water—plain as well as still or carbonated spring water and mineral water\*
- Alcoholic beverages (non-grape) – cider, plum wine and sake etc.
- Beer/ale/stout
- Pure spirituous liquor in something other than glass
- Wine—alcoholic and non-alcoholic in plastic#
- Spirit-based, flavoured alcoholic beverage—alcopops and spirit based beverages sold in casks
- Wine based, flavoured alcoholic beverage—fruit flavoured wine and wine coolers#

\* Exclusions apply—eligible containers must be less than 1L.

# Exclusions apply—depending on size and type of container.

A comprehensive list of eligible containers can be found on the EHP website:

[www.ehp.qld.gov.au/waste/pdf/qld-container-refund-scheme-eligible-beverage-containers.pdf](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/waste/pdf/qld-container-refund-scheme-eligible-beverage-containers.pdf)



## Container refund and collection points

A network of container refund and collection points, including reverse vending machines, will be set up across the state ensuring there is appropriate access to the scheme. These container refund and collection points will be managed by a range of operators including community organisations and charities.

You will be able to get the 10 cent refund for eligible containers at all refund points.

It is anticipated that the majority of container collection points will be operated by community groups and charities. These container collection points will accept eligible containers as a way of fundraising for their organisation.

Eligible containers provided to a collection point for a community group or charity will be considered a donation and no refund will be given.

### What are the benefits?

- Reduced litter and plastic pollution in the environment
- All containers receiving a 10 cent refund will need to be recycled resulting in improved recycling and recovery rates
- Increased business and employment opportunities
- Protection of wildlife
- Fund raising opportunities and increased awareness for community organisations charities.

### What you can do

- From now until 2018 continue to use existing recycling options for your drink containers both at- and away-from-home.
- From 1 July 2018, keep an eye out for container refund and collection points in your local area.
- Encourage your school, sporting club and community organisation and charity to participate in the scheme.

For more information visit [www.ehp.qld.gov.au](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au)