

# 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 November 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 Queensland Government website:

[www.qld.gov.au/containerrefund](http://www.qld.gov.au/containerrefund)



## How you can return your empty drink containers

There are several ways that eligible containers can be returned as part of the container refund scheme.

### 1. Container refund point

A network of container refund points will be established across Queensland. You can receive the 10c refund when you take empty eligible drink containers to these container refund points. While the exact location is yet to be determined, the container refund points will be conveniently located at a mix of permanent and mobile locations, and may include Reverse Vending Machines. Some container refund points may also give you the option to donate the 10c refund amount to your preferred charity or organisation.

### 2. Container collection (donation) point

These points are likely to be operated by community organisations or groups, charities, or schools. If you take a container to a container collection point you will be donating the 10c refund to the organisation or charity running the collection point.

### 3. Local government recycling services

You can keep recycling containers using your yellow top kerbside bin, or by taking your containers to a local government collection facility if you don't have a kerbside service. If you are consuming your drinks in a public place such as a park, you can still place the containers in a public place recycling bin.

## 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 November 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.qld.gov.au/containerrefund](http://www.qld.gov.au/containerrefund)