

NSW Container Deposit Scheme



Councils

Under the NSW Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), people will be able to return eligible beverage containers for recycling in exchange for a 10-cent refund. A network of collection depots and reverse vending machines will open across NSW to receive empty beverage containers and deliver the 10-cent refund.

When will the scheme commence?

The CDS will commence from July 2017.

What will councils be required to do?

Councils are an important partner in waste management and litter prevention. Councils will have the opportunity to participate in the operation of collection depots and in helping to inform the community about the scheme.

How will the CDS affect councils?

The scheme's objective is to reduce litter. Councils should therefore see a reduction in drink container litter once the scheme is introduced. Councils that administer kerbside recycling services are also likely to see a change in the content of kerbside recycling bins.

Householders will have a choice to either continue disposing of their eligible beverage containers using their domestic recycling bins or return them to a collection depot or reverse vending machine to claim the 10-cent refund.

How will councils benefit?

Eligible containers in the kerbside recycling will be able to be redeemed. The redemption mechanisms and the distribution of the refund and handling fees will be determined by the Implementation Working Group, which will be established by the NSW Environment Minister. This will result in savings that are likely to help councils improve their waste services and pass reduced council rates on to householders.

Can councils run collection depots or reverse vending machines?

Yes, councils can apply to operate collection depots. Alternatively, councils might choose to make their facilities available for others – such as charities, community groups or social enterprises – to run, for fundraising opportunities or to help provide a service to their local community.

For more information, visit

epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/container-deposit-scheme.htm

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