



ONTARIO'S CONTAINER RECYCLING FEE COMMUNICATIONS GUIDE FOR PRODUCERS

December 16, 2022

About CBCRA

- The Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association (CBCRA) is a non-profit, industry-funded organization which manages extended producer responsibility programs to increase recovery rates of beverage containers.
- CBCRA successfully manages the Recycle Everywhere, program which will launch in Ontario on April 1, 2023.
- In Manitoba, the Recycle Everywhere program has achieved a 72 per cent recovery rate as of 2021. This is a dramatic increase from 42 per cent when the program launched in 2010. Recycle Everywhere also achieved an 80% recovery rate for PET beverage bottles at the end of 2021.

Purpose

This document will help guide your conversations about important changes to Ontario's beverage container recycling program starting April 1, 2023. Below you will find:

- Details about the container recycling fee (CRF) and its importance in ensuring beverage producers achieve targets set under the Ontario Blue Box Regulation.
- How the CRF is applied to various types of beverage containers.
- Commonly asked questions and answers you may encounter when discussing the CRF.



Guiding Messages

The following messages may be used in conversations about the upcoming changes to Ontario's beverage container recycling program, including the implementation of the CRF:

- CBCRA and Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) have partnered to implement an efficient, accessible, and comprehensive recycling program for beverage containers in Ontario both at and away from home.
- This will include the province-wide introduction of CBCRA's public-facing Recycle Everywhere program, which will provide promotion and education (P&E) to Ontarians on the convenience of recycling beverage containers no matter where they live, work or play.
- Beverage containers are subject to higher collection targets (80% by 2030) than other packaging materials and are consumed away from home more than other packaged products. A comprehensive, industry-wide program is the only way to ensure beverage producers achieve container recovery targets in the coming years.
- The entire program will be funded through a CRF applied to every sealed ready-to-drink beverage container supplied in the province by producers. This includes all beverage-related costs from CMO, Stewardship Ontario (SO), and Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA). It also includes P&E, collection from municipal public spaces, along with the provision of bins and signage to the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) sector under the Recycle Everywhere program.

About the CRF

- Container recycling fees are a common and proven financing mechanism to successfully fund the recycling of beverage containers no matter where they're consumed. CRFs are already being used in eight Canadian provinces where they have contributed to increased beverage container recovery rates.
- The fees charged to producers are used only for the costs related to collecting and recycling beverage containers to ensure that Recycle Everywhere helps move the beverage industry and province towards their sustainability goals.
- CBCRA's board has determined that the CRF breakdown will be as follows:
 - \$0.01 per aluminum container
 - \$0.02 for PET plastic bottles 500 ml and under
 - \$0.03 for all other containers



Further information on the CRF breakdown can be found below.

- In Ontario, the CRF will fund:
 - SO beverage container and beverage ancillary packaging related costs beginning January 1, 2023
 - CMO beverage ancillary packaging costs and beverage-related costs in the common collection system (CCS)
 - RPRA 2023 fees
 - CBCRA program elements, including:
 - 250,000 recycling bins and signage over five years in municipal facilities (i.e. arenas, pools, community centres) and the IC&I sector
 - Collection incentives for the Municipal Locations sector
 - Province-wide promotion and education
 - Data collection and analysis
 - Program administration



Ontario CRF Table

Material Group	Material Category	CRF
Beverage - Paper	Gable Top Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Gable Top Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	Gable Top Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
	Aseptic Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Aseptic Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	Aseptic Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
Beverage - Plastic	PET Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.02
	PET Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	PET Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
	HDPE Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	HDPE Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	HDPE Bottles - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
	PLA, PHA, PHB - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0-500 ml	\$ 0.03
	PLA, PHA, PHB - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	PLA, PHA, PHB - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
	Non-Expanded Polystyrene - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Other Plastics - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Other Plastics - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	Other Plastics - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
Beverage - Steel	Steel Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Steel Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 ml - 1L	\$ 0.03
	Steel Containers - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
Beverage - Aluminum	Aluminum - Beverage Containers - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.01
	Aluminum - Beverage Containers - Non-Alcoholic > 500 ml	\$ 0.01
Beverage - Glass	Clear Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Clear Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 - 1L ml	\$ 0.03
	Clear Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03
	Coloured Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 0 - 500 ml	\$ 0.03
	Coloured Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic 501 - 1L ml	\$ 0.03
	Coloured Glass - Beverage - Non-Alcoholic > 1L	\$ 0.03



Questions and Responses

The following questions and responses may be used to answer CRF related questions where applicable. If a question is not addressed below or in the guiding messages provided above, please contact CBCRA at producers@cbcra-acrcb.org.

1. Is CBCRA charging a fee to retailers?

No, CBCRA collects a fee from beverage producers to fund recycling infrastructure and collection. It's at the discretion of individual producers to choose how to manage these costs.

2. When will the CRF come into effect?

The CRF will come into effect province-wide on April 1, 2023.

3. What is the definition of a “beverage container”?

Please refer to the [compliance bulletin](#) from Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority (RPRA).

4. Which beverage container products does the CRF apply to?

CBCRA will charge producers a CRF on sealed ready-to-drink non-alcoholic beverage containers.

5. How will the public be informed of this change?

The CRF will fund a promotion and education campaign from CBCRA that will drive awareness of the new recycling program. CBCRA will also work with beverage producers and industry stakeholders, including the Retail Council of Canada, to ensure that all stakeholders have the most up-to-date information should consumers have any questions about the program.

6. Can I pass on this cost to consumers?

There are no regulations that would prohibit or require either producers or retailers from passing on the cost to their customers.

7. Can producers opt out of the CRF?

No, all CBCRA beverage producers have an obligation to participate in this industry-led effort to increase recovery rates of beverage containers across the province no matter where they are consumed.

8. Will the new program include a deposit return system?

No, the program does not include a deposit return system.

9. Why is CBCRA launching this new recycling program?

Beverage containers are subject to higher collection targets than other packaging materials. This new recycling program helps ensure producers across the province achieve their container recovery targets in the coming years. Recycle Everywhere, the CBCRA program, complements



the blue box program, ensuring that producers meet their obligations by collecting containers no matter where they are consumed.

10. Will this affect other recycling programs that Ontario currently operates?

The new initiative will operate as the one and only efficient, accessible, and comprehensive program to help ensure that producers can meet their beverage container recovery targets in the coming years.

11. Will CBCRA be providing recycling bins to retailers?

CBCRA will be providing free beverage container recycling bins to the IC&I sector, including retailer facilities.

12. When will recycling bins be available in the IC&I sector?

CBCRA will begin distributing bins in the IC&I sector after the April 1, 2023 program launch.

13. Why does Ontario need another recycling program?

The Ontario government has mandated individual producer responsibility (IPR) programs for Packaging and Printed Paper. This includes a steep increase to 80 per cent recovery rates for beverage containers by 2030, at least one third of which are consumed away from home. The current overall beverage container collection rate in Ontario is in the low 50 per cent range.

The CBCRA Recycle Everywhere program has demonstrated success in Manitoba by increasing the recovery rate from 42 per cent to 72 per cent since 2010.

The new program, which builds on the learning and success in Manitoba, was developed to positively impact the environment by ensuring that it is convenient for Ontarians to recycle empty beverage containers no matter where they live, work or play.