Oregon's Bottle Bill: A Cooperative Approach

How Oregon's Most Prominent Public-Private-Partnership Delivers Outstanding Recycling Outcomes

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Bottle Bill: A Brief History



A private system run by distributors, founded on retail returns



5¢ deposit "aspirational and not prescriptive"



2010

BottleDrop Redemption Center introduced



Increase to 10¢ deposit



Retail bag drop program expands



OBRC created privately run



Reusable bottle planning begins



2018

Container expansion, huge increase in volume

Reusable program launches

First Express site opens





The Power of a Dime

10¢ Sparks Huge Demand

Redemption rate quickly went from 64% to over 82%

(now between 80% and 90%!)







Keeping pace with the industry

In 1971 Far fewer beverage

and container types in stores

Today

Applies bottle bill to reality of beverage market



BottleDrop® OBRC



Efficiency in Numbers

The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative operates with...

~2 billion

containers/year recycled

2,000

retail redemption locations (~450 total RVMs)

80-90%

Annual Redemption Rate

96

Green Bag drop sites

300

members and participants

26

Full-Service Redemption Centers 6

processing plants

532

employees throughout Oregon

Zero

taxpayer dollars for operations





BottleDrop Redemption Centers

Clean, fast and easy returns

- Single-purpose, indoor facilities
- Customers can redeem up to 350 a day
- 25 full-service redemption centers
 - Two currently under development
 - Possible because of return to retail requirement
- Largest center accepts approx.
 100 million containers/year
- Paid for and operated by industry











Green Bags

The easy self-serve account program

- Gear up. Customers enroll, get card and tags at kiosk, and buy bags at store
- Tag & fill it. Place coded BottleDrop tag on bags and fill with redeemable containers
- Drop it. Leave bag at secure drop door
- Track it. Check account balance online or with our mobile app









Express/Dealer Redemption

Expanding access throughout the state

- Smaller volume markets and urban areas
- Expanded access to green bag accounts and no fee for bag drops
- 63 locations operating
- New locations added to the network at the pace of one or two per month











Easy Access, Heavy Participation

The most convenient container return system in the world

Sign up, get cash, print labels right at the store (or via the mobile app)







Bags are sold for \$2 a box and are conveniently available at retail bag drop locations.

Convenient consumer access, easily deployed network of return locations











This store is a Dealer Redemption Center. As defined in ORS 4564,700, this store:

- Accepts up to 2A containers to be returned per person, per day, and
- Accepts beverage container returns in BosteGrop bags Eineen or Bluel, and
- Pays the processing fee for BostleOrop bags dropped at this location.

The drop door can only accommodate up to 15 large per person, per diay. Terms and Conditions apply, Visit Bestell-replanter score for complete Terms or to find a full-service Redemption Center.

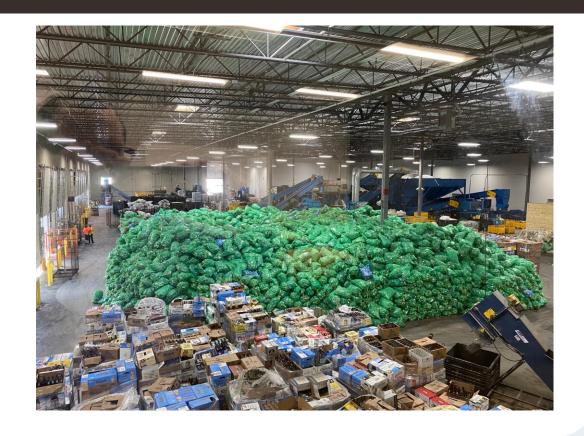


Green Bag Volume

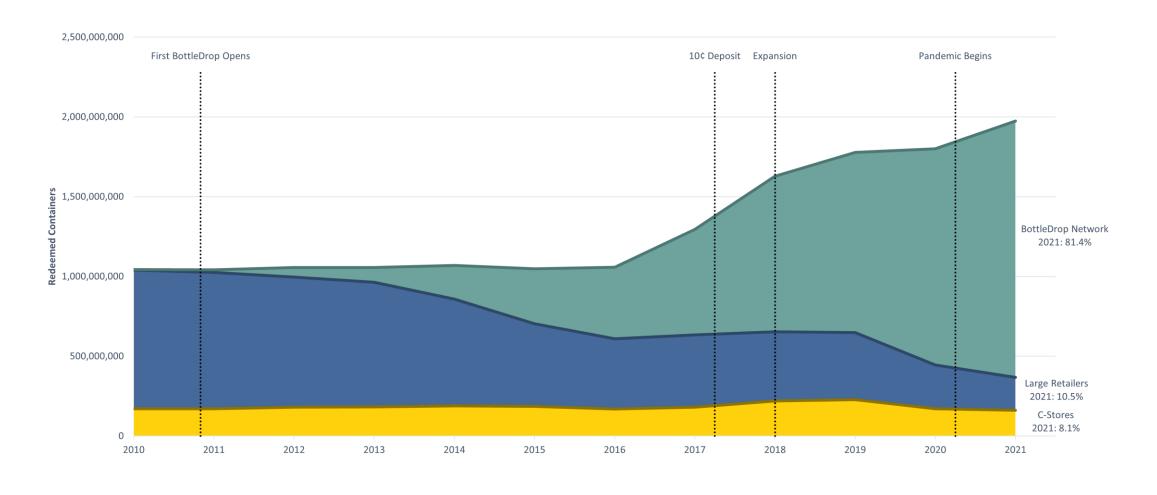
Convenience and Results

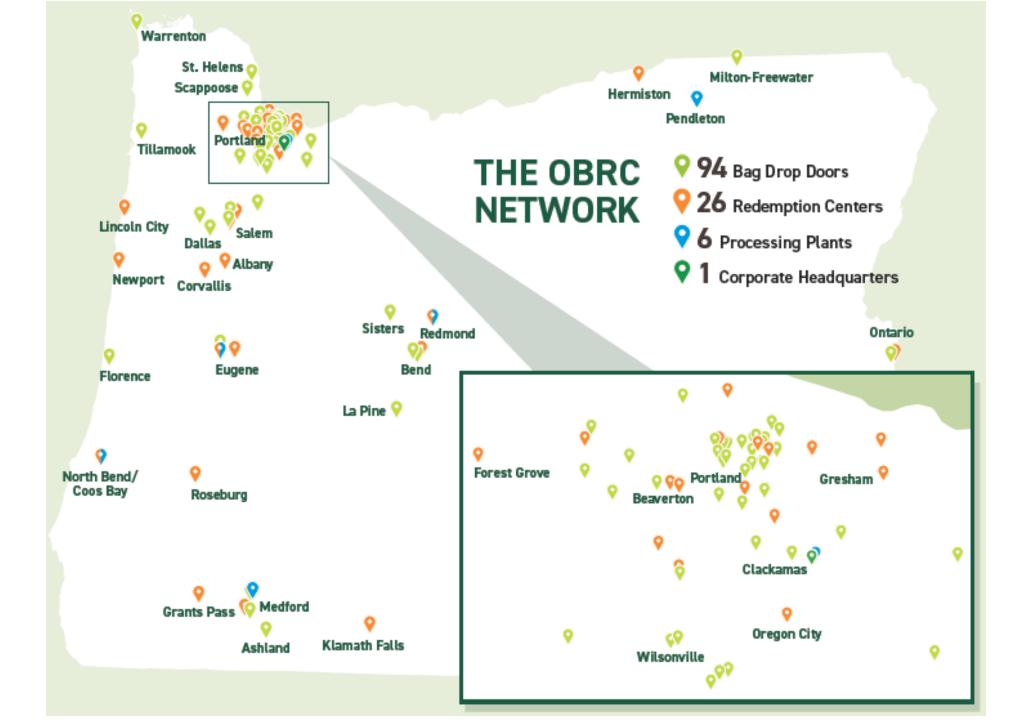
Currently around 930,000 **BottleDrop Account Holders**

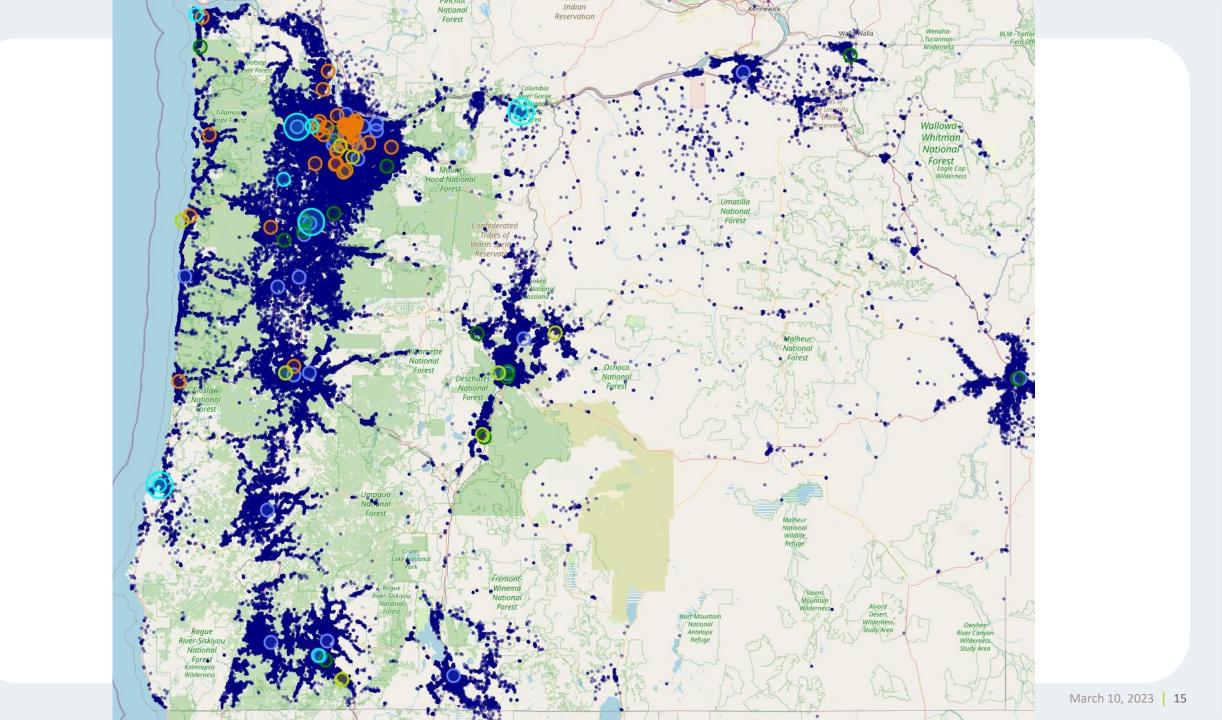
- 5.2 million bags in 2019
- 8.3 million bags in 2020
- 11.2 million bags in 2021



Container Returns by Location









Blue Bags

Redeem yourself, support your cause

- Non-profits:
 - Enroll as fundraisers
 - Distribute Blue Bags
 - **Drop** full bags at a BottleDrop
 - Collect a check
- Around 5,000 nonprofits raise over **\$5 million** each year to support community efforts across Oregon. Over **\$18.5 million** raised to date.
- Growth has been exponential. In just the first 9 months of 2021, nonprofits raised over \$4m, fully a third of the amount that had previously been raised in the program's 11-year history.







A Recycling Motivation for Everyo

Options bring Outcomes

- •<u>Litter remediation and recycling</u> outcomes: Grade-A clean stream of materials for domestic recycling
- •Financial: Immediate Cash at an RC or store
- More affordable groceries: 20% more in store credit through BottleDrop Plus
- <u>Tenacious nonprofits:</u> Donate to charity or fill Blue Bags
- <u>Saving for College</u>: Directly link your BottleDrop account to an Oregon College Savings Plan account





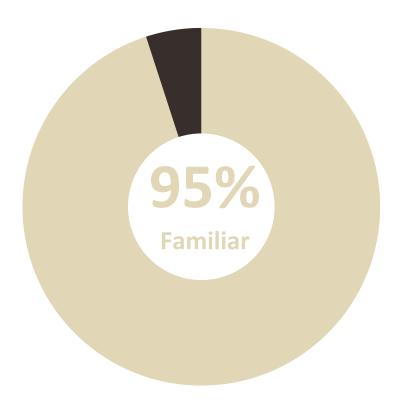


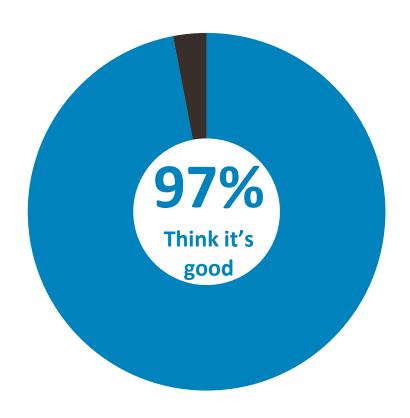


Oregonians are familiar with the bottle deposit and return program.



And they agree that it is good (Jan. 2022 DHM Research)







Where Does the Material Go?

Keeping the cycle close

Plastic: 100% processed at ORPET facility located in St. Helens (~30 million lbs. of plastic last year)

Glass: 100% processed in Oregon and made into new bottles (including refillables!)

Aluminum: 100% processed domestically











ORPET

Plastic processing right here in Oregon

- OBRC's plastics recovery rate is 83.3%, compared to the national average of ~35%.
- Highest quality possible for the material -pelletizing now occurring for very circular recycling.
- Very important for industry to meet recycled content goals and policies.









Refillables/Reusables

Building on the infrastructure

11 participating breweries, cideries and wineries so far

Affordable for producers

Fraction of the carbon footprint of even recycled glass

About 2 million units in circulation







Refillables Participants

Off to a strong start with some of the Northwest's best























lank you.

Learn more at obrc.com and BottleDropCenters.com

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