

H.158: An Act Relating to the Beverage Container Redemption System: Timeline for Implementation

July 1, 2023	Effective date of act; substantive effective dates are embedded in the text of the bill as follows.
July 1, 2023	Increase in handling fee from four to five cents for containers that are not commingled.
January 1, 2024	Manufacturers of beverage containers sold or distributed in the State shall apply to ANR to form a producer responsibility organization (PRO). (For beverage containers currently subject to bottle bill). 10 V.S.A. § 1531(b)
October 1, 2024	An approved PRO submits a stewardship plan to ANR. 10 V.S.A. § 1532(a)
January 1, 2025	ANR submits a systems analysis of the beverage container redemption system to the General Assembly. Sec. 7 of Act.
March 1, 2025	Distributor or manufacturer of beverages registers the products with ANR 30 days prior to sale under a stewardship plan (except for liquor sold by DLL). 10 V.S.A. § 1528
March 1, 2025	Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in the State that is subject to the deposit shall include a Universal Product Code and barcode on the label. 10 V.S.A. § 1524(b)
March 1, 2025	Beverage containers (current bottle bill containers) prohibited from sale or distribution unless beverage is covered by the PRO's approved stewardship plan. 10 V.S.A. § 1531(a)
March 1, 2025	Repeal of 10 V.S.A. § 1528 (beverage registration with ANR) and 10 V.S.A. § 1529 (redemption center registration). Sec. 8 of Act. PRO now responsible.
July 1, 2025 and every 5 years thereafter	ANR submits to the General Assembly a report containing the current beverage container redemption rate. 10 V.S.A. § 1534(b)
January 1, 2026	PRO authorized to retain 50% of unredeemed bottle deposit. Sec. 2 of Act.
July 1, 2026	First beverage container redemption rate goal of 75%. Goals increase every five years until 2040 goal of 90% beverage container redemption. 10 V.S.A. § 1534.
March 1, 2026 and annually thereafter	PRO conducts independent third-party fiscal audit of the stewardship collection program. 10 V.S.A. § 1533(b). Audit results are submitted to ANR.
January 1, 2027	Scope of beverage containers subject to bottle deposit expands to include all drinks in liquid form intended for human consumption (with limited exceptions) when the beverage is sold in a container made of glass, aluminum or other metal, PET plastic, or HDPE plastic. Wine also subject to beverage container redemption. 10 V.S.A. § 1521.
March 1, 2030 and every 5 years thereafter	PRO conducts an independent third-party audit of the operation of the stewardship plan. 10 V.S.A. § 1533(a). Audit results are submitted to ANR.
July 1, 2031	PRO no longer authorized to retain 50% of unredeemed bottle deposits. 50% of the unredeemed deposits will be deposited into the Clean Water Fund, and 50% will be deposited in the Solid Waste Management Assistance Account. Secs 3, 5, and 6 of Act