

mgallagher@vpirg.org

Marcie Gallagher Environmental Advocate, VPIRG





Benefits of Bottle Bills

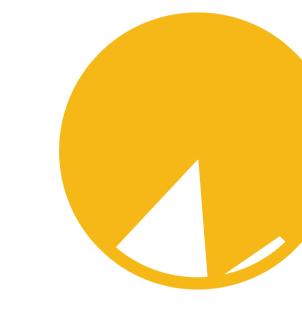
Bottle Bill materials are:



clean, high quality and more likely to be turned into new bottles



higher value than materials collected from single stream, curbside recycling



The majority of Bottle Bill materials are turned in to new bottles Expanding the Bottle Bill means more containers being used and remade in to new containers.

This is the "Circular Economy"





- Half of Vermont's single-stream glass was improperly and secretly dumped for five years due to lack of market, equivalent to over 30 million wine bottles!
- Broken glass contaminates other recyclables in the single-stream system and causes wear-and-tear on processing equipment.

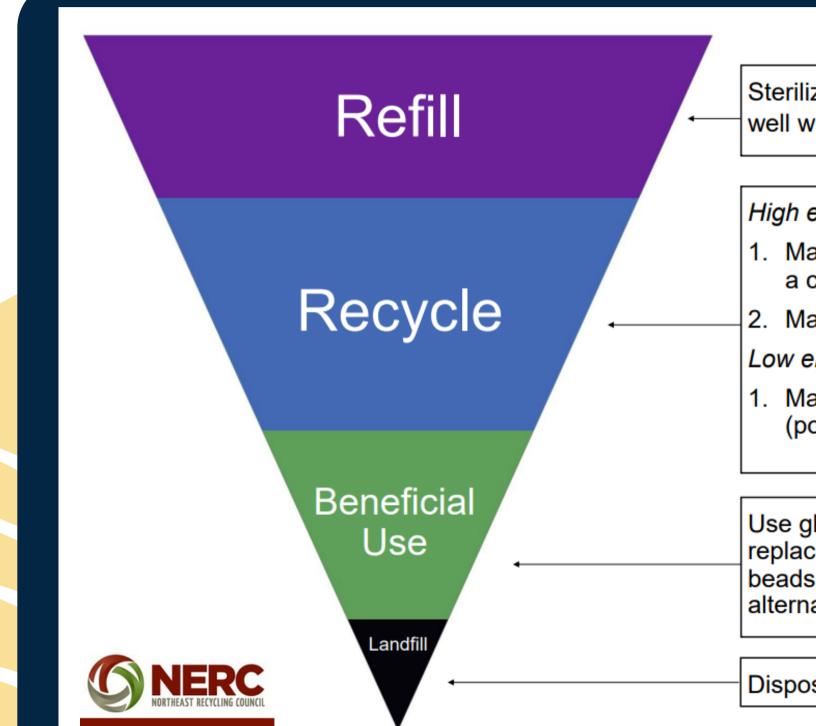
 Including wine bottles in an expanded Bottle Bill is beneficial for solid waste districts.













Sterilize and refill glass bottles. Works well within a limited geographic range.

High energy savings:

1. Make recyclable glass containers in a closed-loop process.

2. Make fiberglass.

Low energy savings:

1. Make durable construction products (pozzolan, foamed aggregate, etc.)

Use glass aggregate for filtration, sand replacement, abrasives, roads, highway beads or fill. Some states view landfill alternative daily cover as beneficial use.

Dispose of glass in the landfill as trash.









UNDERSTANDING RECYCLING STREAMS How glass is collected affects the quality and volume of the material and influences yield and value.



Each system has its advantages. Single stream is convenient, produces high volume, but has higher contamination. Separate stream or drop-off is typically a cleaner glass stream with lower glass volume. Deposit systems produce high glass volume and higher quality glass.



of community drop-off glass is suitable to be recycled into new containers.

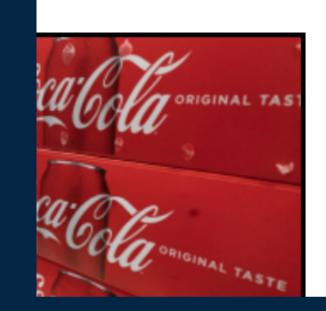
> 92% of managed separate stream glass is suitable to be recycled into new containers.

> > 98% of deposit stream glass is suitable to be recycled into new containers.



ndustry Support





September 13, 2021 Leading Beverage Container Manufacturers Agree: Well-Designed Deposits Are Key to Getting More Containers Back for Recycling The glass, metal and plastic PET container industries agree that deposit systems lead to higher recycling rates, as well as better quality, higher value material enabling...

Figure 2: The Value of Pure Material to Beverage Container Industries





Pure material is important for PET since it leads to a higher process yield.

PLASTIC



MRFs tend to contain contaminants, which increases processing costs and depresses value, deposit material is important to the glass industry.





Aluminum recycling mills pay a premium for bales of used beverage cans from deposit states because purer bales lead to a more efficient recycling process.



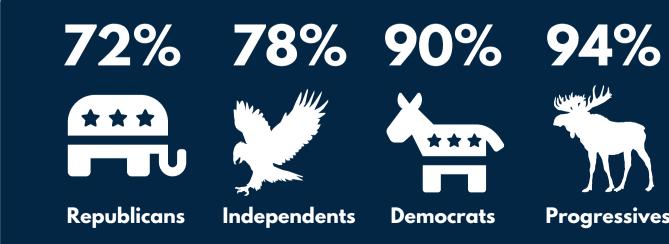




Public Support

2 in 3

Vermonters believe glass should be recycled as many times as possible into new glass bottles including 65% of both Republicans and Progressives. 19% want it used for construction material.





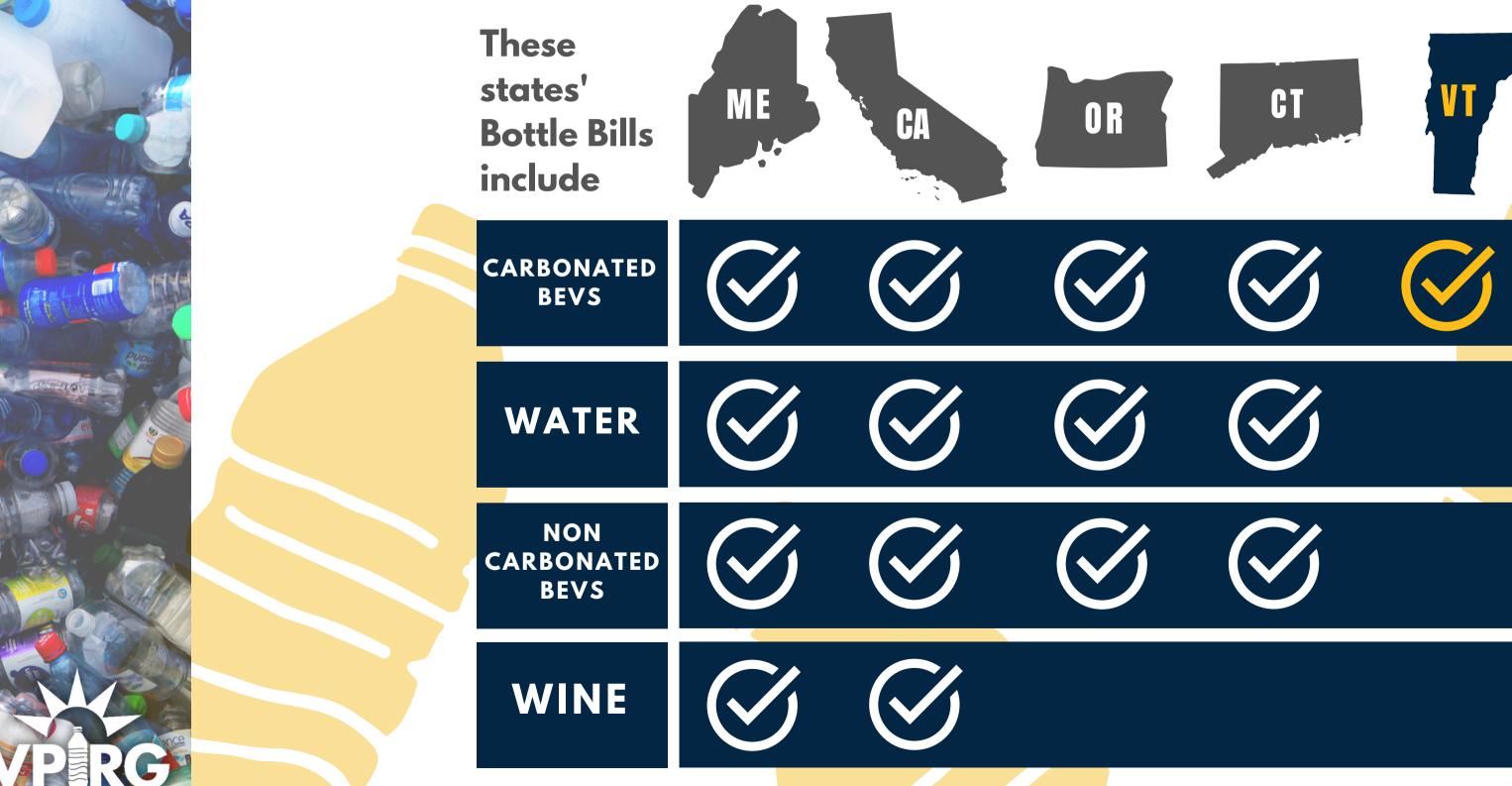
83% support updating the

Bottle Bill to include more containers. just 15% oppose an update





Vermont falling behind





Expansion

VERMONT'S BOTTLE BILL TODAY:

What *IS* covered:



What **IS NOT** covered:



WINE, WATER, SPORTS DRINKS AND MORE





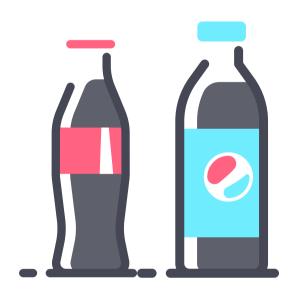
How the nickel moves





The grocery store pays the five cent deposit to the manufacturer/distributor when they purchase a beverage to sell at their store. The manufacturer is holding the five cents.











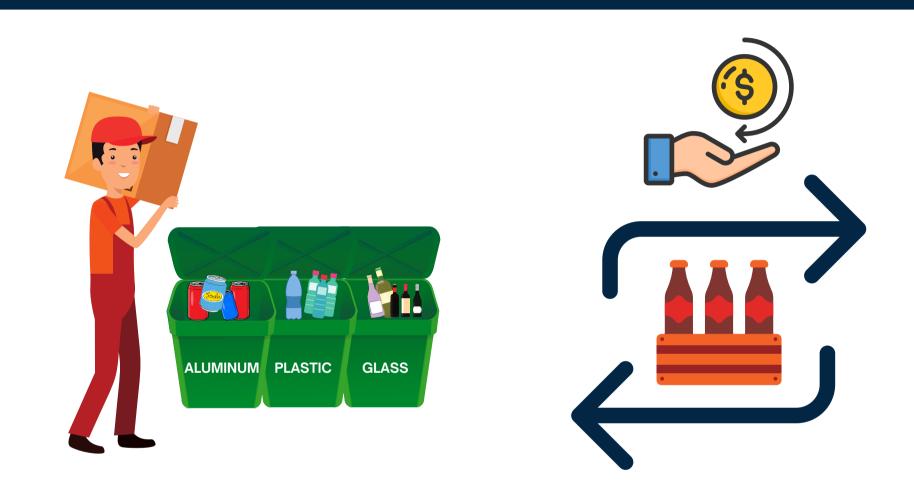
The consumer pays the five cent deposit when they purchase their beverage. The grocery store is made whole.







How the nickel moves



The redemption center/retailer pays the five cent deposit when the consumer returns their empty beverage container. The consumer is made whole.



