

USED BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

The following FAQs are presented for general information – the contents are subject to change and do not supersede the authority or provisions of the Newfoundland and Labrador Waste Management Regulations. In the event of any discrepancy or inconsistency between the information in this document and the Waste Management Regulations, the regulations will prevail.

REGISTRATION

Q1. Do I have to register on an annual basis?

A1. No. Distributors who have a program registration number do not have to re-apply. However, Distributors are required to notify MMSB of any changes to their registration information by completing and resubmitting the program registration form.

Also note, if you sell or cease operations, you are required to notify MMSB in writing as soon as possible to ensure your account is properly closed. Until MMSB receives written notice, you remain registered as a Distributor and are obligated to meet requirements under the Waste Management Regulations. Written notices can be submitted by email to auditor@mmsb.nl.ca or in hardcopy to the attention of Compliance Auditor at MMSB, 6 Mount Carson Avenue, Dorset Building, Suite 300, Mount Pearl, NL A1N 3K4.

Q2. What is the process for registering with the Used Beverage Container Recycling Program?

A2. All Distributors who do not have a registration number must complete and submit a Used Beverage Container Recycling Program registration form to MMSB. Visit mmsb.nl.ca to download an electronic copy of the program registration form. To receive a hardcopy of the form, call toll-free 1-800-901-MMSB (6672) or email auditor@mmsb.nl.ca. Submission instructions are included on the registration form.

Upon receipt and approval of a completed registration form, MMSB will issue a Registration Number and provide a Stewardship Agreement for signature.

Q3. Am I required to register each type of beverage I sell in the province?

A3. No. Each type of beverage container that qualifies as deposit-bearing is automatically deemed registered under the program and must include a return for

refund message. Variations of the wording are acceptable as long as the concept of a refund (e.g. Return for Refund; Refundable; Return for refund where applicable; etc.) is evident **and** that the Mobius Loop symbol or the word “Recyclable” appears on the label. Most important is the content of the message, that it is readily visible, and must be on the container when it is empty.

Q4. What happens if I don’t register or report and remit deposits to MMSB?

A4. As a Distributor of beverage containers in Newfoundland and Labrador, you are required to register with MMSB and participate in the Used Beverage Container Recycling Program. Distributors that do not meet their legal obligations under the program are not permitted to sell ready-to-serve beverages in the province. In addition, failure to comply with the provisions of the *Waste Management Regulations* may result in any or all of the following actions:

- Audit of the Distributor;
- Legal proceedings to collect amounts owed;
- Application of a fine, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act and the Waste Management Regulations; and
- Cancellation of the Distributors registration and notification to provincial enforcement.

Q5. How can I ensure my products comply with the Regulations?

A5. All non-refillable, ready-to-serve beverage containers five litres or less are included in the program – see the Beverage Container Guidelines for a list of products included in the program and the applicable deposits.

If you require clarification about whether a beverage container is deposit-bearing or not, contact MMSB at inquiries@mmsb.nl.ca in writing via email and provide a digital copy of the product label for review. MMSB will provide written confirmation on whether or not a deposit applies and the amount.

DEPOSIT

Q1. How much is the deposit?

A1. An 8 or 20 cent deposit applies to each ready-to-serve beverage container, depending on the size and type of container and whether it is used for an alcoholic or a non-alcoholic beverage (see the Beverage Container Guide) – some exceptions apply.

Q2: Is the deposit a tax?

A2: No. The deposit applied to the sale of beverage containers is used to fund the collection, transportation and processing costs associated with recycling.

Q3: What ready-to-serve beverages are exempt from the program?

A3: The following items are exempt from the program, and a deposit does not apply:

- Milk
- Milk substitutes
- Infant formula
- Meal replacement beverages and formulated liquid diets
- Concentrated products
- Containers greater than 5 litres
- Refillable containers that are collected and reused through a local distributor program

Q4: Does the deposit apply to ready-to-serve products sold out of province?

A4. If a Distributor sells any beverage container out of province, the deposit does not apply. However, the Distributor is required to retain documentation relating to the out-of-province sale to substantiate non-remittance of the deposit.

A retailer that sells a deposit-bearing beverage container out of province must provide MMSB with proof of shipment and sale, along with proof of payment of the deposit, in order to be reimbursed.

Q5: Is the deposit taxable?

A5: HST applies to deposits of taxable ready-to-serve beverage containers. Distributors are responsible for remitting HST to CRA on all applicable deposits.

Q6. How are the unclaimed and un-refunded portion of deposits used?

A6. Beverage container deposits that are not refunded to the consumer are used to supplement the cost of running the Beverage Container Recycling Program. After that, surplus refunds are invested in the Waste Management Trust Fund, which are used to advance sustainable waste management in the province.

REPORTING AND REMITTING

Q1. When are my monthly reports and payments due?

A1. Remittance forms and payment of applicable deposits are due by the tenth (10th) day of the month following the reporting period. Completed forms can be submitted in hardcopy or electronic format. MMSB accepts payment through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) or cheque.

Email: remittances@mmsb.nl.ca
Fax: 709-753-0974
Mail/Delivery: Multi-Materials Stewardship Board
6 Mount Carson Avenue Dorset Building, Suite 300
Mount Pearl, NL A1N 3K4

To download forms visit, mmsb.nl.ca. To receive a hardcopy of the Used Beverage Container Recycling remittance form, call a MMSB Compliance Auditor toll-free 1 (800) 901-MMSB (6672) or email auditor@mmsb.nl.ca.

Q2. Do I have to report every month?

A2. Yes. Completed program remittance forms must be submitted for every month – even if no used beverage containers were sold during the month.