

News Release

Oregon Liquor Control Commission 9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Portland, OR 97222-7355 1-800-452-6522

For more information:
Bryant Haley Alcohol Program Spokesperson
bryant.haley@oregon.gov 971-990-3254 (mobile)

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Bottle Bill redemption resumes statewide Stores required to redeem containers starting July 5th

COVID Risk Level Restrictions Lifted June 30th Daily container redemption limits still apply

PORTLAND, OR. – Oregon has re-opened for all business activity and retailers need to prepare to fully resume providing container redemption services. That's in the wake of <u>Governor Kate Brown's</u> announcement lifting the statewide COVID risk level framework.

By July 5th, <u>all stores must resume accepting empty beverage container returns</u> at their pre-COVID levels and during all hours the stores are open.

Resumption of the redemption requirements is expected to have an impact on the business operations of retailers as consumers "clean out their garages" and begin to return redeemable containers they've been storing during the pandemic. That's why the Oregon Liquor Control Commission will not begin enforcing the requirement for retail stores to redeem containers until after the holiday weekend. This is compliance approach is similar to one the OLCC took at the start of the COVID-19 virus outbreak.

At the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, the OLCC took a non-enforcement posture regarding the requirement that stores accept redeemable containers; this step was taken to enable stores to comply with customer capacity restrictions and operational demands. The OLCC will continue to work with both consumers and stores to ensure consumers have more options available to return their empty beverage containers under Oregon's iconic Bottle Bill and get deposits back into their pockets.

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