

Annual Report

In 2019, the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) marked its tenth anniversary as the statewide steward of Oregon's bottle deposit and return program. During this 10-year span, the program has undergone the most dramatic period of change and growth since its origination, nearly 50 years ago. Changes included the introduction and build out of the BottleDrop Redemption Center model, the increase in the container refund value to \$0.10, the expansion of the refund value to more beverage types, and major disruptions in global recycling markets.

Amidst all the change, OBRC ensured that Oregon's bottle deposit and return program remained as successful as it has ever been. Hundreds of new households sign up to use the BottleDrop Green Bag program every day, a testament to the value of the program and our efforts to increase access and convenience. As a result, OBRC is increasingly viewed as a best practice, in the United States and internationally, for industry and governments seeking to increase recycling and to reduce litter and waste.

Our accomplishments in 2019 include setting recent or all-time highs in many of our service and program areas. We recycled more material, facilitated more donations to nonprofits, expanded our refillable glass bottle program, and rolled out new services, like the ability to contribute bottle and can refunds directly into Oregon College Savings Plan accounts. We are proud of our accomplishments in 2019 and we are excited to begin the next decade of stewardship.



TEN YEAR NOTABLES

2009

57 co-op participants

5¢ refund value

142m lbs. material recycled

156 employees

2019

206 co-op participants

10¢ refund value

182m lbs. material recycled

450 employees

2009 OBRC formed

2010 First BottleDrop Redemption Center opened & first Green Bags returned

2014 10th BottleDrop opened

2015 BottleDrop Give created

2017 Refund value increased to 10¢

2019 BottleDrop opens 50th bag drop location; 15 million Green Bags processed all-time

2019 ANNUAL BUDGET: \$44 MILLION^{1,2}

BottleDrop Centers & Green Bag Program

41%

BottleDrop Refill Program

2%

BottleDrop Express & Transportation

2%

Material Processing at Statewide Plants

14%

Accounting, Administration & Compliance

12%

Retailer Services & Transportation

26%

Stewardship Initiatives

3%

PUBLIC SERVICE, NO PUBLIC FUNDING

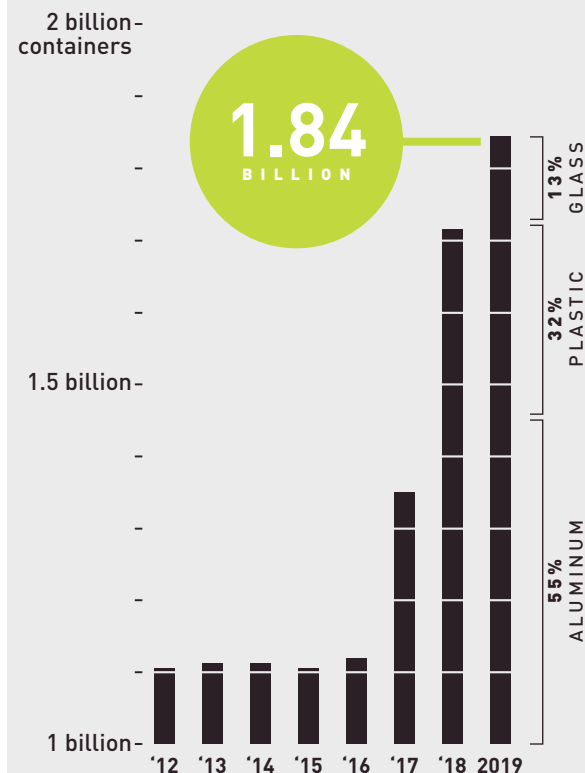
30.8 million pounds
plastic recycled

2,508
container return
locations served

5.2 million
Green Bags processed

\$0
tax dollars used

INCREASE IN CONTAINERS RECYCLED



**TOTAL NUMBER OF
CONTAINERS RECYCLED**

¹ Budget information and data reviewed by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC).

² Budget and redemption data for 2019 in this report is preliminary. OBRC is committed to accurate and transparent accounting and files an official report to the OLCC as required by Oregon's bottle bill in June of each calendar year. OBRC does not include the value of scrap material sold in its operating budget.

2019 RETURN RATE² [OBRC ANNUAL EST.]



REFILL HIGHLIGHTS

407,840

refillable glass bottles
in circulation

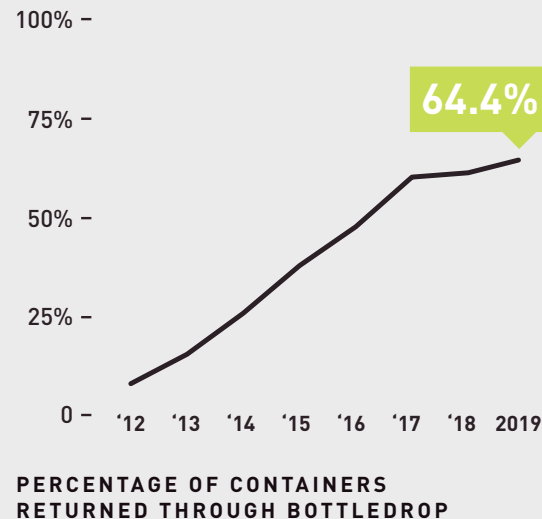
Installed state-of-the-art bottle inspection machine capable of detecting flaws to <1mm at speeds of 72,000 bottles per hour

10 producers bottled in
refillables in 2019
up from 4 in 2018

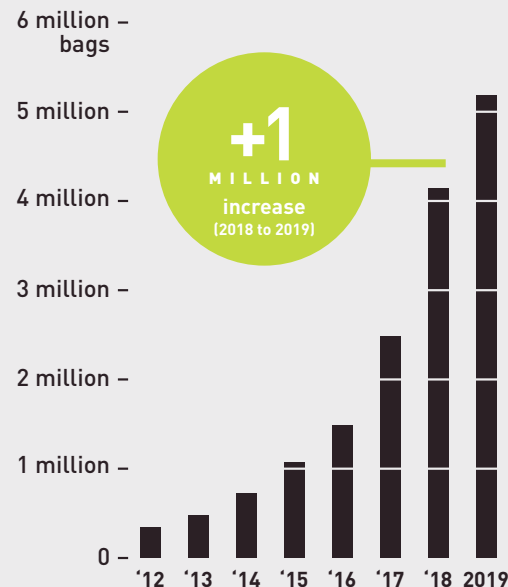
Buoy
Rock Bottom
Double Mountain
Coopers Hall
Wild Ride Brewing

Cider Riot!
Worthy Brewing
Mikkeller Brewing
Gigantic Brewing
Bayern Brewing

MORE RETURNS THROUGH BOTTLEDROP



GREEN BAG PROGRAM: RAPID GROWTH



BOTTLEDROP GIVE EXPANDS

“BottleDrop Give has been a great success for us—we are a small organization, and the \$6,000 that we have received since April 2018 has been a huge help. The real secret is the large number of friends and neighbors who pick up bags from us and drop them at random times—either back at our shelter or directly to a BottleDrop location. All [our] BottleDrop Give funds [go] to the Animal Aid Cares Fund, which provides grants to low-income families in need of urgent vet care.”

Tina Arth
Board Member
Animal Aid

BOTTLEDROP GIVE FUNDRAISING TOTALS

2,274
nonprofits participating in Give

\$7.9 million
total generated all-time for
Oregon nonprofits
\$1.8 MILLION RAISED IN 2019

2019 ROUNDUP

10 new drop sites

55 TOTAL BOTTLEDROP LOCATIONS

3 new product types join Refillables program:

Coopers Hall

FIRST
WINERY

Bayern Brewing

FIRST
OUT-OF-STATE
BREWERY

Cider Riot!

FIRST
CIDERY

102,550

new BottleDrop
account signups

Oregon College Savings Plan

launched connection allowing BottleDrop account holders to transfer their bottle and can refunds to their OCSP accounts

BottleDrop Give

\$1.3 million generated
through Blue Bags

884 new fundraisers

BottleDrop Fund

awarded grants to four nonprofits:
Children's Forest of Central Oregon, Institute
for Sustainability Education and Ecology (ISEE),
Oregon Coast Aquarium, and Trash for Peace

MISSION

OBRC is the industry steward of Oregon's nationally recognized beverage container deposit program. We help keep Oregon beautiful by providing outstanding services to our partner distributors and retailers, and to the public for the recovery, reuse, and recycling of beverage containers.

2020 GOALS

Expand access to BottleDrop through investments in better technology, more drop locations, and a new Redemption Center.

Increase the number of BottleDrop account holders and expand the use of BottleDrop account benefits like BottleDrop Plus and the Oregon College Savings Plan.

Deliver more resources to Oregon nonprofits through BottleDrop Give and BottleDrop Fund.

Expand the use of BottleDrop Refillables by recruiting more brands and more beverage types.

Build our reputation as a world leader and innovator in container deposit and return programs.

Continue to establish the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative as an employer of choice and a great place to work.

LEARN MORE

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