

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



## CREATING CHANGE ON A DIME





## Creating Change on a Dime

For 51 years and counting, OBRC and its distributor participants have served every corner of Oregon, providing access, convenience and always the highest level of recycling quality for beverage containers.

In January 2023, I stepped into the role of President and CEO of Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative. It's a company with a talented team, a drive for innovation and a critically important mission. After growing up with Oregon's Bottle Bill, leading this company and stewarding Oregon's legacy is a dream come true.

The success of the Bottle Bill and the OBRC system is possible because of our focus on continuous improvement. We invest and innovate, year after year. But more than that, it is possible because of the people involved.

Thank you to the Oregonians who use the system daily, weekly and monthly. Thank you to the policymakers who help safeguard the system for all. Thank you to our nonprofit partners who bring community into our mission by directing millions of dollars in refunds to great causes across Oregon. Thank you to our co-op members who combine expertise with both foresight and oversight. And perhaps most, thank you to our employees, who work in challenging jobs to ensure every dime is refunded and every container is recycled.

In 2022, we learned from public opinion research that Oregonians give the system an A+, with 97% agreeing that it's good for Oregon\*. While that highlights the success of where we've been, even more so, it shows the importance of where we are going and the responsibility to do it well. You can count on all of us at OBRC to work every day to continue to make our Bottle Bill the most successful in the world and to create a world where no resource is wasted.

A stylized white signature of Jules Bailey on a dark green background.

**Jules Bailey**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative

### COVER PHOTO:

In 2022, OBRC partnered with BottleDrop Give nonprofits across Oregon to feature their work on OBRC trucks. The Elakha Alliance, headquartered in Siletz, Oregon, is working with tribal and conservation leaders to reintroduce sea otters to their native habitat along the Oregon Coast.

*\*2022 survey by DHM Research*



## 2022 by the Numbers: 2 Billion and Counting!

Convenience means results. 2022 marked the first time ever that more than 2 billion containers were redeemed through Oregon's Bottle Bill. That's more than 2 billion containers recycled domestically to the highest and best outcomes and more than \$205 million paid out to Oregonians and Oregon nonprofits in container refunds.

**513** employees

**301** co-op participants

**164.8 million** pounds of materials processed

**117,831** new BottleDrop account sign-ups

**26** full-service BottleDrop Redemption Centers (1 new)

**94** bag drop locations (12 new, 1 closed)

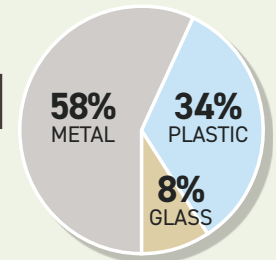
**51,337** metric tons of CO2 equivalent emissions reduced – comparable to taking 10,900 passenger cars off the road\*

**88.5%** redemption rate\*\*

*\*by recycling containers through OBRC vs. sending them to landfills, as calculated by US EPA Waste Reduction Model*

*\*\*Preliminary data. OBRC submits final data to OLCC in June of each year.*

**2.05 BILLION**  
CONTAINERS  
RETURNED



**927,865**  
TOTAL BOTTLEDROP  
ACCOUNTS

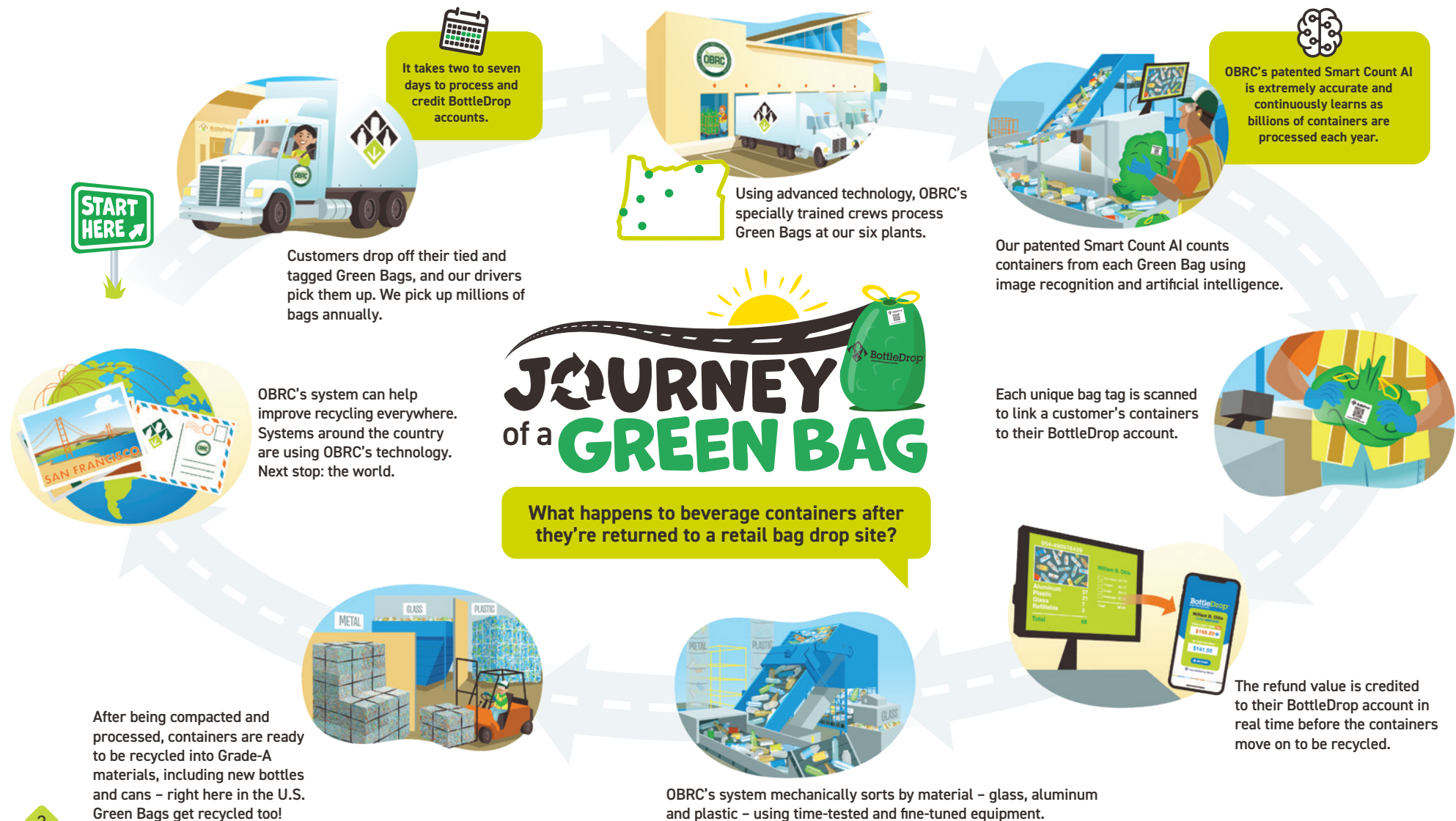
*A 14.5% increase from 2021*

**11.4 MILLION**  
GREEN AND BLUE BAGS  
PROCESSED



# OBRC's Statewide Network is Powered by Innovation

*Being good stewards of every container*



# OBRC's Technology Makes the Redemption Process Faster and More Convenient

Thirty-one thousand.

That's how many Green and Blue Bags of redeemable beverage containers, on average, are processed at BottleDrop locations every day in Oregon. And when it's at peak volume, it can hit 50,000.

Meeting that demand in an efficient, speedy and convenient way is no easy task. But by developing an innovative technology right here in Oregon, OBRC has created a solution that's made the redemption process faster, more accurate and more convenient for customers everywhere.

Oregonians return more than 2 billion containers annually, so efficiency and accuracy are key. OBRC's patented Smart Count AI helps on both fronts, rapidly and accurately counting containers and crediting customers' BottleDrop accounts instantly.

The Smart Count AI's system uses image recognition, scanners, cameras, advanced software and artificial intelligence to rapidly identify and count bulk batches of OR 10-cent containers returned through the Green Bag and Blue Bag programs. After counting, customers' accounts are credited immediately.

The system is extremely accurate and continues to learn over time as the software is updated to include more container and material types. OBRC has deployed the patented Smart Count AI technology at some of its processing plants and Redemption Centers.

In 2022, OBRC also deployed a second version of the technology called Stream Count AI, which counts beverage containers while they are in motion on a conveyor belt. The technology, made available at Redemption Centers in Northeast Portland and North Bend/Coos Bay, allows customers



to empty up to 350 containers onto a conveyor belt, where the bottles and cans are instantly identified and counted underneath an optical system. Customers receive a voucher and can redeem it immediately.

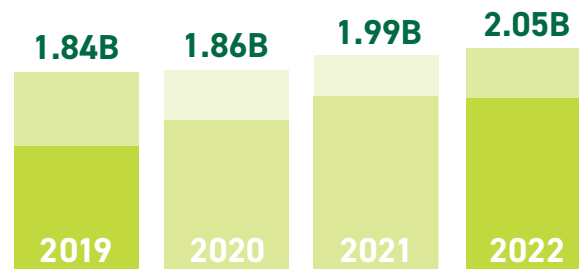
OBRC regularly hosts delegations visiting from across the nation (and the world) to learn about the innovations that have made Oregon's system one of the most efficient and convenient of its kind. Oregon's first-in-the-nation Bottle Bill was inventive from the start, and OBRC's focus on innovation continues to deliver nation-leading results.



# Growing the BottleDrop Network

Convenience is a key factor in the performance of Oregon's Bottle Bill. In 2022, OBRC expanded the BottleDrop network by opening a BottleDrop Redemption Center in North Bend/Coos Bay and replacing the Northeast Glisan Street BottleDrop Redemption Center in Portland with a state-of-the-art facility featuring first-of-its-kind technology. The BottleDrop network ended the year with 94 Green and Blue Bag drop sites across Oregon, 11 more than the previous year's end. New drop locations were added through retail partnerships in Aloha, Ashland, Bend, La Pine, Lincoln City, Portland and Tualatin.

The percentage of containers returned through the BottleDrop network stabilized throughout 2022 compared to the COVID-19 pandemic-era highs that occurred during retail return suspensions in 2020 and 2021. Comparing the two most recent years without retail return suspensions (2019 and 2022), the BottleDrop network continues a steady trajectory of growth in the overall percentage of return volume.



Total volume of container returns by year. Darker shading denotes proportion of volume returned through the BottleDrop network, and lighter shading denotes proportion of volume returned through retail stores.



"The savings that we are having with this, not just in terms of resources but in terms of time, is so invaluable for this community, for my neighborhood. We are working-class, refugee and BIPOC communities, and it's just such a relief to know that we're seen and that we're valued and that we have this incredible technology that's bright and shiny right here in an area that has felt traditionally underserved."





– **State Rep. Andrea Valderrama**  
Resource Recycling, 11/28/22

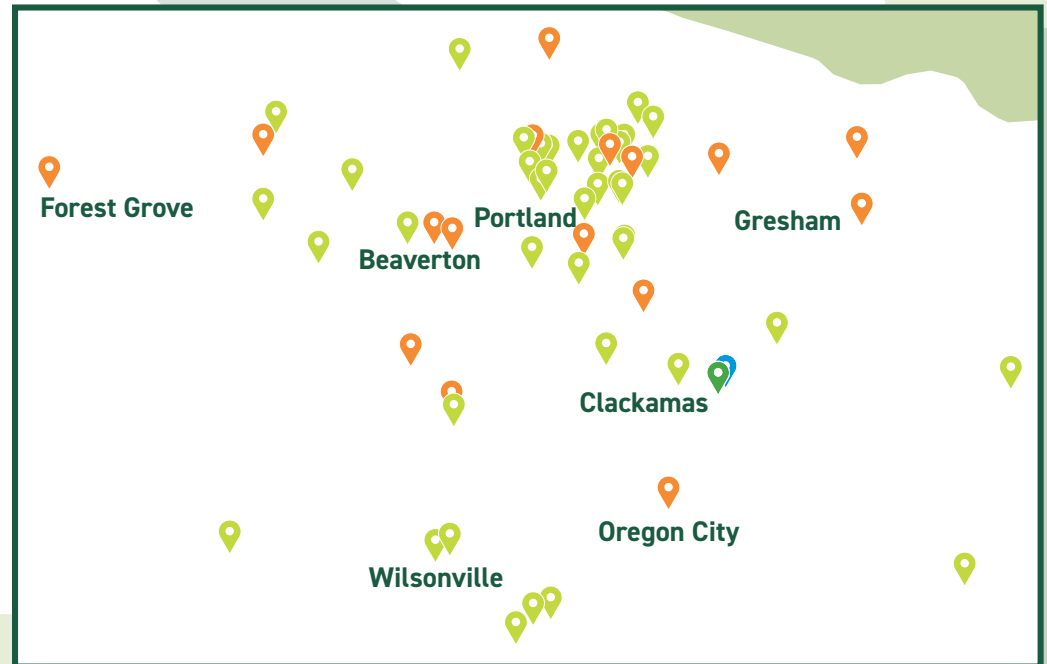


**Above:** The new Redemption Center at 122nd and Glisan in Portland

**Left:** The new BottleDrop Express in Ashland and North Bend/Coos Bay Redemption Center

# THE OBRC NETWORK

-  **94** Bag Drop Doors
-  **26** Redemption Centers
-  **6** Processing Plants
-  **1** Corporate Headquarters



# Making a Real Difference Across Oregon – and Beyond

Oregon's Bottle Bill was created to reduce litter and protect the environment. While it continues to fulfill these core missions today, it has also become a big part of the social fabric in communities across the state – and even the world, as was the case when Oregonians showed up in a big way for their distant neighbors in Ukraine during the spring of 2022 (*see the feature story on Page 8*). Whether through Containers for Change, the OBRC Emergency Fund or an enduring partnership with the Oregon Community Foundation through the BottleDrop Fund, OBRC regularly partners with Oregonians to provide support during emergencies and to transform container redemption into community progress everywhere in Oregon.



**76** NONPROFITS  
RECEIVED FUNDING THROUGH  
CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

**13** nonprofits were awarded grants through the **BottleDrop Fund** at the Oregon Community Foundation in 2022.

**Adalante Mujeres**, empowering women through environmental education and leadership in Forest Grove.

**AdoptOneBlock**, supporting volunteers who beautify communities through litter collection.

**Blanchet House**, improving sustainability at the Blanchet Farm residential recovery facility in Yamhill.

**Children's Forest of Central Oregon**, boosting access to the NatureHoods Program and field trips for students.

**Elakha Alliance**, working to restore sea otter populations on the Oregon Coast.

**Everyone Village**, launching an alternative container redemption service in conjunction with their safe rest village in Eugene.

**Ground Score's People's Depot**, operated by and providing container redemption services for canners and gleaners in Portland.

**Growing Gardens in Portland**, serving students through food systems education and environmental action.

**Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (Cans for Kids)**, providing funds for children's programming and activities through container donations in Cave Junction.

**Lomakatsi Restoration Project in Ashland**, engaging youth in ecological stewardship training and employment.

**Oregon Bee Project at Oregon State University**, supporting pollinator research.

**Spruce Up Warrenton**, rallying the community to beautify Warrenton.

**Trust for Public Land**, incorporating environmental education and design into school playgrounds at Madras Elementary and Alameda Elementary.

The BottleDrop Fund awards larger grants to support nonprofits working to build community, protect the environment and help vulnerable people.



# Oregonians Rally to Help a Community Across the Globe

## *OBRC's Emergency Fund helped raise \$125,000 to support refugees in Ukraine in 2022*

In February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, triggering the fastest-growing refugee crisis in Europe since World War II. By the end of that month, more than 4 million people had fled the country.

Almost immediately, Portland-based Mercy Corps, a global provider of humanitarian relief, sprang into action to help – and so did OBRC and our BottleDrop customers.



In March, OBRC announced that it would match donations up to \$50,000 from its Emergency Fund to help support Mercy Corps' efforts in Ukraine. The cooperative encouraged BottleDrop account holders – more than 810,000 at the time – to make donations to Mercy Corps from their online accounts. Oregonians returning

containers at BottleDrop Redemption Centers could also donate their refund value to support Mercy Corps.

The campaign generated more than \$125,000 in less than a month.

The funds have helped Mercy Corps support local organizations in Ukraine, Poland and Romania that were providing critical relief services for refugees and those still in Ukraine.

“From grain shortages to fuel prices, the war in Ukraine has had significant ripple effects around the world,” said Lynn Hector, Mercy Corps' senior director of global communications. “Oregonians stepped up tremendously in 2022 by donating their bottles and cans to support Mercy Corps' relief efforts in Ukraine. This unique BottleDrop fundraising effort shows us once again how deeply interconnected we are as a global community and how even small acts of generosity can make a tremendous impact.”



Mercy Corps team members assisting Ukrainian refugees at the Sighetu Marmatiei border crossing between Romania and Ukraine. *Photo credit: Cassandra Nelson*

This wasn't the first time OBRC and Oregonians returning their containers teamed up to help others in need. Originally launched in 2020, the OBRC Emergency Fund aims to help communities and neighbors during times of crisis, often through matching campaigns or calls to action that provide opportunities for BottleDrop account holders and Oregonians to leverage the full redemptive power of their containers.

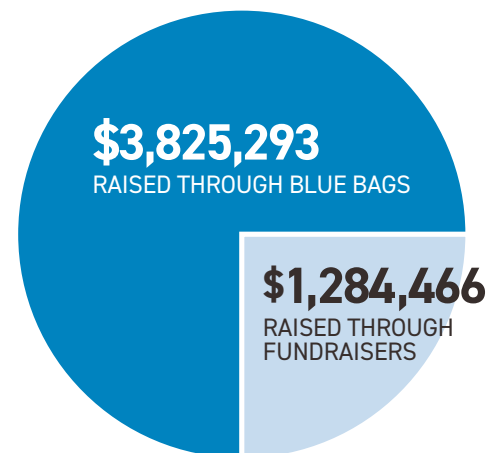
The Emergency Fund was first activated at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and raised \$200,000 for the Oregon Food Bank to help people experiencing food insecurity. The fund has also been activated to help rural firefighters during a devastating wildfire season and to support cooling and warming shelters during extreme weather events.

## Giving Back, Giving Big

It's easy to get lost in the numbers: more than 110 checks each week, 480 per month, 5,800 per year, totaling more than \$5.1 million raised by Oregon nonprofits through BottleDrop Give in 2022. Behind each of those checks is a town festival bringing people together, a food bank providing nourishing meals, an animal rescue brightening a home with a shelter pet, a youth or senior services provider enhancing lives, and an environmental group caring for our planet.



MORE THAN  
**\$5.1 MILLION**  
RAISED FOR NONPROFITS  
IN 2022



**534,641**  
BLUE BAGS PROCESSED

*A 4% increase from 2021*

**5,565** PARTICIPATING  
NONPROFITS ACROSS OREGON

*An 18% increase from 2021*



10 U Fireballs Team Bryant • 1st Phoenix Community Center • 3 Rivers Landowners Association • Adrian Lions Club • Agave Dogs Rescue • Allen Temple C.M.E. Church • Aloha High School Booster Club • Aloha High School WEX • Alston's Corner Assembly of God • American Cancer Society • American Cancer Society - Columbia Co. Relay for Life • American Cancer Society - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer • American Legion Post 0090 • American Military Encouragement Network • Amity Youth Sports • Ammanuel Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Portland • Animal Aid, Inc. • Arabian Horse Rescue & Education • Arco Iris Spanish Immersion Center • Ardenwald Elementary School PTO • Arleta PTA • Assistance League of Greater Portland • Astoria High School • Astoria Senior Center • Barlow High School • College & Career Center • Barlow High School Boosters Club • Barlow VIPs • BEAT Children's Theatre • Beaverton Band Boosters • Beaverton HS Volleyball • Bend Elks Lodge 1371 • Bethlehem Inn • Beverly Cleary School PTA • Bhikshu Buddhist Nun In Vietnamese • Birch Community Services, Inc. • Bloomin Boutique • Born Again Pit Bull Rescue • Bridgeway Recovery Services • BSA Sea Scout Ship Freedom 399 • BSA Sea Scout Ship Tsunami • BSA Troop 51 • BSA Troop 161 • BSA Troop 259 • BSA Troop 398 • Build Lebanon Trails • Calvary Chapel Bend Homeschoolers • Calvary Chapel Fellowship Salem • Calvary Chapel Medford Oregon • Calvin Presbyterian Ministries • Cambodian Children Ministry • Camp Kiwanilong Board, Inc. • Camp Meadowood Springs • Canby Booster Club • Cans For The Canyon • Cardinal Booster Club • Care & Share Community Outreach • CASA of Lane County • CASA of Polk County • Cascade Relief Team • Cat Adoption Team • Cat Alliance Team Sanctuary • Cathedral School • Cat Rescue and Adoption Network • Cat's Meow Cat Rescue • CCCF Wellness Committee • CEF Portland Westside Chapter • Central Coast Humane Society • Central Oregon Animal Friends • Central Oregon Locavore • Century High School Band • Century Youth Athletic Association • Chehalem Swim Team • Christ the King Youth Ministry • Christmas for Kids of Douglas County • CityTeam Portland • Clackamas County 4-H Horse Advisory • Clackamas High Grad Night • Claudia House • Cleveland High School Foundation • Coalition Advocating for Animals (CAFA) • Cobb Children's Learning Center • Coburg Community Charter School • Coffenberry Middle School FBLa • Coho Sanctuary • Columbia County Sheriffs Posse • Columbia Pacific Food Bank • Columbia River Chorus • Committed Alliance to Strays dba C.A.T.S. • Community of Hope Church • Compassion First • Congregation Neveh Shalom • Coos County 4-H Association • Coos County Rangers Horse 4-H • Corbett High School CHAMPS • Cornerstone Worship Center • Cottage Grove Elks Lodge 1904 • Creative Science School PTA • Creston Elementary PTA • Creswell Boy Scout Troop 28 • Creswell High School Class of 2024 PPC • Crook County High School • Crook County High School Equestrian Team • Crook County School District - NJR/OTC • Crooked River Ranch Lions • Crown Point Country Historical Society • Cub Scout Pack 50 • Cub Scout Pack 582 • Dallas High School Turf Project • Dallas Retirement Foundation • Dance Contraption Boosters • Dayton Food Bank • Dennis Bennett Memorial, Inc. • Department of Corrections • OSCI • Diamond Back Clovers 4-H Club • Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Portland Unit 1 • Discover Your Forest: NNVN • DOC: Columbia River Correctional Facility • Dove Medical • Dream Boosters • Dundee Community Committee • Duniway Elementary School PTA • Eagle Ridge High School • Eastern Oregon Mission • Agape House • EcoGeneration • Emilio, Inc. • Estacada High School Adult Transitions • Eugene Chapter #C009 SPEBSQSA • Eugene Mission • Family Church • Family Dogs New Life Shelter • Family Kitchen • Family Promise of Greater Washington County • Family Promise of Lincoln County • Farmington View • Faulconer • Chapman School • Feed The Hungry, Inc. • Felines First Rescue • Fences For Fido • Fern Hill Grange 592 • Fir Grove Elementary PTO • Fireballs • Team Parmelee 100 • Florence Habitat for Humanity • Florence VFW Post 3232 • FOOD For Lane County • Food Share of Lincoln County • Friends Involved in Dog Outreach (FIDO) • Friends of Brooklyn Park • Friends of Historic Forest Grove • Friends of Leedy Grange Scouts • Friends of Lincoln County Animals • Friends of Myrtle Creek Library • Friends of the Animal Shelter • Friends of the Milwaukie Center • Friends of the Winston Library • Friends of Umpqua Valley Police K9 Programs • Friends of West Slope Library • Furry Freight Shelter Transport • Furry Friends Foundation, Inc. • Fuzzball Animal Rescue • GAPS Swim Team • Gervais High School Seniors • Girl Scout Troop 35078 • Girl Scout Troop 45004 • Girl Scout Troop 45703 • Gladstone Class of 2022 • Gladstone School District - Graduation Party Class of 2023 • Glencoe High School Band Boosters • Glide Booster Club • Gold Hill Community Development Organization • Good Samaritan Ministries Zambia Fund • Grace Lutheran School • Grace Place Learning Center • Grand Sheramina Community Services • Grand View Christian Academy • Greenhill Humane Society • Gresham Dance Team • Gresham Senior Center • Habitat for Humanity Junction City/Harrisburg/Monroe • Happy Valley Elementary PTO • Harney County Senior and Community Services Center • Harrisburg Grad Celebration • Harrisburg Mat Club • Harvey Clarke Parent Teacher Organization • Hawks View Elementary School PAC • Hayden Island Neighborhood Association • Hazel's House Rescue • Heartland Humane Society • Hearts With A Mission • Heavenly Animal Rescue Team and Services • Hermiston Band Boosters • Hermiston Christian School • Hermiston Cross Country • Hillsboro High School Band Boosters • Hillsboro High School Grad Night • Holladay Park Plaza Foundation • Holy Family Catholic School • Holy Redeemer Catholic Church of La Pine • Homeward Bound Pets • Honoring Heroes, Inc. • Hoofprints in the Sand Rescue • Horizon Christian School • Horses Adaptive Riding and Therapy • Horses of Hope Oregon • Humane Society of Central Oregon • Humane Society of Eastern Oregon Pet Rescue • Humane Society of Redmond • Humane Society of the Ochocos • Illinois Valley Community Development • Illinois Valley Little League • Jacksonville Boosters Foundation, Inc. • Jason Lee PTA • Jefferson Boosters Inc. • J-Mar Racing Inc. • Joseph Charter School • Journey Roseburg Church • Junction City Babe Ruth • Ka Aha Lahui O Olekona Hawaiian Civic Club • Keitha's Kitten Rescue • Kick'n Cancer • New Beginnings Council 15263 • Knights of Columbus • Wilsonville Council 15640 • Knights of Center • La Pine Community Kitchen • La Pine High School Jr. ROTC • Lake Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association • Lava Bear Polo • Legacy Athletics Liberty High School Band • Lincoln City Swim Club • Lincoln County Board of School - World Strides Trip • Linn County Animal Rescue • Living Faith Assembly Elementary School • London School Parent Club • MacBand Parent Organization Polk Food Share • Marshfield High School Equestrian Team • Mary Rieke PTA • Boosters • McKenzie Community Development Corporation • McMinnville High Seniors Inc. • Medford First Church of the Nazarene (Operation Christmas Child)

**THE \$2,000 CLUB**  
513 of the 5,565 Give nonprofits raised more than \$2,000 in 2022 through BottleDrop Give

• Medford Gospel Mission • Memorial PTA • Meow Village • Mercy Corps • Metropolitan Learning Center PTSA • Mi Casa International • Cans for Kids • Micah CTP • Mid-Valley Bicycle Club • Mid-Valley North Young Life • Mid-Valley Prelude Sinfonia • Milton Stateline Adventist School • Milwaukie Elks Lodge 2032 • Mitch P50 • Molalla Adult Community Center • Foothills Community Church • Molalla Booster Club • Molalla Clays • Monmouth Independence Community Foundation • Skate Park • Monroe Young Life OR266 • Mount Angel Abbey • Mountainside PACT • Mt Hood Meadows Oregon LLC • Mt. Hood Select 14U • MV Advancements • N.E.W. PTA (Elmira Elementary School) • Namaste Sanctuary • Newberg Animal Shelter • Newberg Church of Christ • Newberg FISH Emergency Services • Newberg Graduation Party • North Bend Booster Club • North Marion FFA Alumni • North Salem Band Boosters • Northwest Human Services • HOST program • Oakland Booster Club • Oldies but Goodies Senior Rescue • Olivet Baptist Church • Ontario Feral Cat Project • Ontario Lions Club • Operation D.O.G. • Oregon City Parks Foundation • Oregon Coast Humane Society • Oregon Country Fair • Oregon Dog Rescue • Oregon Food Bank • Oregon Humane Society • Portland • Oregon Humane Society • Salem • Oregon International Air Show • Oregon State Grange • Raindrop Academy • Oregon State Penitentiary EE&R • Oregon Titans Fastpitch • Oregon Trail Council • BSA Troop 697 • Orphan Kitten Rescue of Oregon • Orphanages Of Kenya • Our Community Birth Center • Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church • Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church • Our Lady of the Mountain • Pacific Pug Rescue • Parkinson's Resources of Oregon (PRO) • Parkrose Bronco Boosters • Paulina PTO • Pawstively Saved Rescue • Pendleton Lions Foundation • Pet Evacuation Team • Philomath High School Baseball • Pilot Rock 4-H Woolly Wranglers • Pink Phoenix Dragon Boat Team • Pioneer Humane Society • Pleasant Hill Basketball • Plush Elementary School • Portland Rescue Mission • Portland Tillamook Preschool • Pregnancy Care Center of Grants Pass • Pregnancy Resource Centers of Central Oregon • Prineville Lions Club • Project POOCH, Inc. • Puplandia Dog Rescue • Queen of Peace Catholic Church • Youth Group • Quiet Waters Outreach • Quincy Grange 321 • Rabbit Advocates • Rainier High School Parents of Class 2021 • Rainier Senior Citizens, Inc. • Raining Dogs Rescue • Redmond Council for Senior Citizens, Inc. • Reedsport Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. • Refuge City Church Youth • Regis Catholic High School • Relief Angels • Resolute MC • RHS Cheer & Stunt Booster Club • Riddle City Library • Rigler Elementary School PTA • ROBC Holy Trinity Private School • Rogue Community College Foundation • Rogue Retreat • Rogue River Institute • Rogue Valley Humane Society • Rogue Valley Manor • Rose Villa Foundation • Roseburg Alliance Church • Roseburg Junior Academy • Roseburg Rescue Mission • Royal Rangers • Outpost 22 • Sacred Heart Catholic Church • Sacred Heart Catholic School • Gervais • Safe Haven Maternity Home • SafeHaven Humane Society • SafeHaven Humane Society • Linn Animal Samaritan Fund • Saint Thomas More School • Salem Friends Of Felines • Salem Harvest, Inc. • Salem Rugby Club • Sam Barlow High School • Water Polo • Santiam Young Life • Save The PT Boat, Inc. • Saving Grace, Inc. • Scalawags • Scappoose Adventist School • Scappoose High Safe & Sober • Scappoose Senior Center • Scholls Heights Elementary PTO • Scio High School • All Night Party 2023 • Scio High School • Leadership • Scio Wildlife • Scouts BSA 30b • Sellwood Middle Foundation • SevaDog • Sharing Hands • Shekinah Deliverance Ministries, Inc. • Sheldon High School Band • Shelter Friends • Shepherd of the Valley Catholic Church • Shepherd's House Ministries • Shermans Kids Zone • Sherwood Band Boosters • Sherwood High School Grad Night 2023 • Silver Bullets Softball Association • Silvertown Cat Rescue • Sisters School District Transition / Life Skills Program • Skopos Christian School • SnowCap Community Charities • Sojourner School PTA • SOLVE • Soroptimist International of Ashland • Soroptimist International of Junction City • Soroptimist International of Medford • SOS Lost Pet Rescue NW • Soul 2 Soul Animal Rescue • South Medford High School Band • South Salem High DLC • South Salem High Music Boosters • South Wasco Youth Programs, Inc. • Southern Deschutes Volleyball Association • Southern Oregon Humane Society • Southern Oregon Stand Down • Southern Oregon Youth Programs • Southridge High School Grad Night • Southridge Instrumental Music and Dance Ensembles, Inc. • Southwest Church of Christ • Sprague Boosters, Inc. • Sprague High Band and Color Guard Boosters • Springfield Young Readers • St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church • St. Rita Food Pantry • St. Anne's Catholic School PTO • St. Cecilia Catholic Church • St. Edwards Catholic Church • St. Francis Youth • St. Helens Band Patrons • St. Helens High School • Equestrian Team • St. Helens Saints Baseball • St. John the Apostle Catholic School • St. John The Baptist Catholic Church • St. Mary's Academy • St. Mary's Episcopal Church • St. Matthew Lutheran Church Youth • St. Paul Elementary PTC • St. Pius X Church and School • St. Therese School • St. Thomas Academy • StandUpGirl.com Foundation, Inc. • Star of Hope Activity Center • Street Dog Hero • Sublimity Harvest Foundation • Sunset Apollo Marching Band and Auxiliary • Sutherlin Baseball • Sutherlin High Wrestling • Sutherlin Lions Charities, Inc. • Sweet Home High School • Sweet Home School District 55 • Takena Kiwanis • Team Sitton • SFPA • Temple Beth Shalom • The Beaverton STARS • The City of Refuge International • The FISH of Roseburg • The Gate Youth Association • The Gathering @ Madras • The Giving Plate, Inc. • The Good Neighbor Center • The Kindness Club of Dallas Oregon • The Kiwanis Foundation of Grants Pass Oregon • Kiwanis Club of Grants Pass • The Reagan Christine Memorial Fund • Thee Can Man • Tigard High School Band Boosters • Tillamook High School Charity Drive • Timberwolf Support Organization • Truth Tabernacle • Tualatin Riverkeepers • UFK Northwest • Umpqua Valley Humane Society • Union County 4-H Association • Union County Youth Heritage Group • Union Gospel Mission • Union Gospel Mission of Salem • University of Oregon Athletics • Autzen • Upstart Crow Children's Theatre AKA Upstart Crow Studios • Vale School District 84 • Verne Duncan Elementary PTO • Vernonia High School • Senior Class Trip • Veterans Care Centers of Oregon • Veterans for Students • Vietnam Veterans of Oregon Memorial Fund, Inc. • Vietnam War Memorial Fund • West Hills Christian School • West Linn Community Preschool • West Linn Food Pantry • West Linn HS Substance Free Grad Party • West Salem High School • Band Boosters • West Salem High School Grad Celebration Booster Club • Westside Riders Association • Westside Service Center • Westview High School Band and Auxiliary • Wetnose Warriors Outreach • Wiggly Tails Dog Rescue • Willamette View Association • Willamina Free Methodist Church • Willamina Senior Grad Night • Willow Creek Railroad • Willowcreek Community Support Organization • Wilsonville Wildcat Fastpitch • Winston Area Independence Day Committee • Womenspace • Woods Creek Rescue • Yamhill Carlton High School • OHSET • Yamhill Carlton High School Trap Team • Yamhill Carlton Together Cares for Yamhill Carlton Soccer • Yamhill County CASA • YC Community Pet Heroes • YMCA of Douglas County • Youth Empowerment Shelter • Zero Waste McMinnville Foundation





## CHEERS TO RESILIENCE!

“We have long known the sustainability benefits of refillable bottles, but the recent bottle and can shortage in the beverage market showed us a whole new benefit of the program. While other brewers were scrambling to find bottles, even at significantly escalated prices, the steady supply of Refillable bottles coming back through OBRC’s Refillable program meant that we had bottles available the whole time – and at a price that stayed stable, despite the whims of market scarcity.”

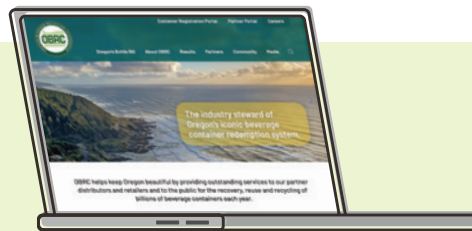
– **Matt Swihart**  
*Double Mountain Brewery*

# Going Far Beyond the Dime

Container redemption is about more than just the dime. Oregon’s Bottle Bill boosts community organizations across the state, helps keep Oregon beautiful, reaches new heights through creative partnerships and continues to inspire change beyond our borders through relentless innovation.

**BottleDrop<sup>®</sup>**  
**Plus**

**199,431** BottleDrop account holders took advantage of BottleDrop Plus in 2022, making their redemption dollars stretch farther by getting an extra 20% added to their funds to shop with in-store credit at participating retailers. That’s a **25% increase from 2021**.



OBRC unveiled a **much-improved website** in 2022. OBRC.com now features information about Oregon’s Bottle Bill, the unique and effective nature of the Oregon Model and the excellent recycling outcomes it produces.

**OREGON**  
COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN™



In 2022, BottleDrop account holders transferred **more than \$400,000** to nearly 4,000 Oregon College Savings Plan accounts. Oregon is the only place in the world where people can directly save for education through container redemption.



OBRC continues to lead the way in refillable glass bottles. The only statewide refill program in the U.S., BottleDrop Refillables now includes **11 craft beverage producers and 112 unique beverage options**.



## An Annual Celebration of Oregon's Bottle Bill

In 2022, OBRC once again celebrated the Bottle Bill's anniversary (51!) by engaging Oregonians in a statewide hunt for hidden commemorative bottles. Each lucky finder got to direct a \$1,000 donation to the BottleDrop Give nonprofit of their choice.



**Amber Kaney and teammates Tommy, Edith and Vina Hefflinger, Jason Stride and Neal Dietz, all of Oregon City and Portland**  
Found in Wilsonville's Memorial Park  
Selected nonprofit: Rose Festival Foundation



**Megan Futrell of Tigard, hunting with Elizabeth and Katen Guise of Beaverton**  
Found in Trojan Park near Rainier  
Selected nonprofit: Rabbit Advocates



**Nicole Ferguson and Jesse Grimes of Pilot Rock**  
Found in Hermiston's Riverfront Park  
Selected nonprofits: Pendleton Animal Welfare Shelter (PAWS)/Pioneer Humane Society



**Shane Chatham of Bend**  
Found in Bend's Hollinshead Park  
Selected nonprofit: Upper Deschutes Watershed Council



**Johanna Field of Eugene, assisted by Dawn, Marie and Melissa Dettner**  
Found in Eugene's Amazon Park  
Selected nonprofit: Shelter Animal Resource Alliance (SARA)



**Kim Thurman and Rob Schneider of Shady Cove**  
Found on the Quarry Trail near Jacksonville  
Selected nonprofit: Rogue Valley Genealogical Society



The entire value of unclaimed refunds is fully invested in the operation of the redemption system.\*

\*Additional funds in the operating budget come from fees paid by OBRC members, retailers and other system revenues.

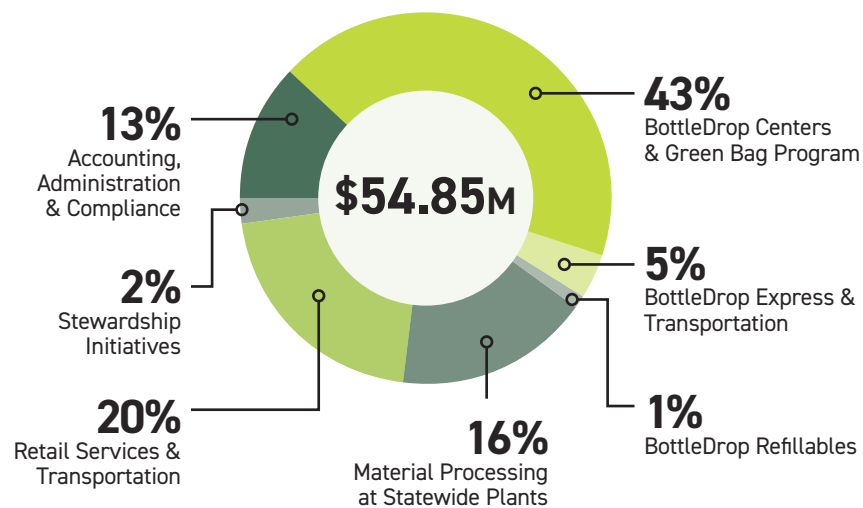
<sup>1</sup>Pie chart percentages and data reviewed by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC).

<sup>2</sup>Budget and redemption data for 2022 in this report is preliminary. OBRC is committed to accurate and transparent accounting and files an official report with 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.

## Big Returns. Zero Tax Dollars.

Oregonians who redeem their containers responsibly get to enjoy the system's strong environmental and recycling outcomes at almost no cost – and at no taxpayer expense. That's because Oregon's Bottle Bill is an advanced form of Extended Producer Responsibility, where OBRC serves as the statewide not-for-profit operational steward on behalf of the beverage industry, and we invest the value of unclaimed refunds directly into the operation and expansion of the network. Additionally, beverage distributors make significant financial contributions to cover the remaining costs of the program.

### 2022 Annual Budget<sup>1,2</sup>



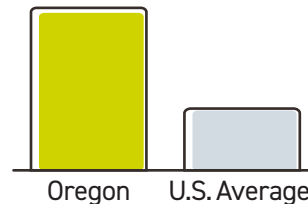


# Innovation+Convenience=Success

A range of easy return options and thousands of return points help Oregon's system deliver excellent results each year. Through OBRC's network, customers have easy access to their dimes, and Oregonians enjoy outstanding recycling outcomes. Convenience and results, the Oregon way.

## WE GET A LOT MORE BACK

Around **88%** of beverages sold in Oregon are redeemable, and the redemption rate is regularly between **80-90%**. Nationally, the beverage container recycling average is around 35%.



## CLEANER MATERIAL MEANS BETTER RECYCLING

Beverage containers have their own recycling pathway in Oregon, making them cleaner and easier to recycle. Unlike curbside, this means they can **remain Grade-A materials** and be recycled into food-grade packaging again.

## WE KEEP THINGS CLOSE TO HOME

**Not all recycling is the same.** While there are plenty of stories about recyclable material being shipped overseas or ending up in a landfill, because of our Bottle Bill and OBRC's system, Oregonians can have confidence that:



Our beverage containers **ARE** being recycled.



Glass and plastic are recycled **right here in Oregon**.



All recycling takes place **in the U.S.**

## ON THE HORIZON: 2023 GOALS

- Open Yamhill County's first full-service BottleDrop Redemption Center in McMinnville.
- Secure property for a future full-service BottleDrop Redemption Center in The Dalles.
- Expand access to the BottleDrop network by partnering with retailers to make Green and Blue Bag drop doors available for the first time in The Dalles, Brookings, Lebanon, Pendleton, Woodburn and Lake Oswego, and expand drop door access in Ashland, Eugene, Oregon City and Portland.
- Hit \$1 million contributed to Oregon College Savings Plan and Oregon ABLE accounts through BottleDrop account transfers.
- Serve as a great partner for BottleDrop Give nonprofits, continuing to grow the Give network of nonprofits, increase funds raised and make positive community impacts through the program.
- Reach 1 million BottleDrop account holders for the first time.
- Continue to work with programs across the country (and the world) to help them improve by exporting Oregon's creative solutions beyond our borders.
- Continue to improve the BottleDrop app by rolling out new functionality to enable direct fund transfers from the app and BottleDrop Plus integration to allow the creation of electronic Plus vouchers in the app.
- Build on the success of BottleDrop Refillables and roll out improved labeling technology, making bottle washing and reuse much easier.
- Continue to serve as a major statewide employer, providing a range of jobs across Oregon as part of the growing green economy.

At OBRC, we empower people to ensure no resource is wasted with every container they redeem. Oregonians can be proud of their Bottle Bill, which consistently produces one of the nation's highest redemption rates. While container return volume has doubled in just the past six years, and the system recently faced a disruptive global pandemic, OBRC has been consistent in delivering convenience for consumers and best-in-class recycling outcomes. When there's no existing solution, OBRC invents one. We are innovators, finding ways to be easier, faster, better and cost-efficient. And when we find the answer, we bring it to the world.



**BottleDrop**<sup>®</sup>  
Oregon Redemption Center



## LEARN MORE

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