

## Quarterly Report

### Q4 - 2024

#### **Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative**



Stream Count, Oregon City Redemption Center, Oct. 2024

As fall settled into winter in Q4 of 2024, the beat of the BottleDrop Network drum continued in its steady rhythm. By year's end, we learned that Oregonians redeemed more than two billion containers and a sneak peek at our preliminary data for 2024 revealed that Oregon once again surpassed a 90% redemption rate. With Oregon's unique Bottle Bill and redemption services model that involves industry, government, and consumers working together, you don't just get results, you get gold standard results. You can learn more about what makes the Oregon Model so successful at obrc.com/oregons-bottle-bill/whats-special-about-the-oregon-model.

The Q4 Holiday Give campaign was a resounding success, with almost 1200 nonprofits participating in the event. In just 18 days and one dime at a time, those nonprofits raised a whopping \$295,000! And wow did we see their creativity shine during the Holiday Give social media contest! You can check out some of those highlights at bottledrop.com/bought-with-bottledrop-give.

We added our rapid batch counting technology, Stream Count AI, in two BottleDrop Redemption Centers in Q4 - Eugene and Oregon City. Using this technology, a customer can shave 18 minutes off (from 20 minutes down to less than 2) the time it would take to redeem 350 containers through a reverse vending machine at the center, giving that person more time in their day to enjoy other activities. We also installed our patented Smart Count AI in the back of

house at our Oregon City BottleDrop Redemption Center that is four times faster at processing Green or Blue Bag bags and crediting people's accounts than the alternative technology.

Lastly, OBRC and SOLVE launched a statewide Community Cleanup and Recycling Event Series in Q4 that will be popping up in BottleDrop Redemption Center communities across the state throughout 2025. Results of the clean ups and more info about the events can be found at bottledrop.com/solve. The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative is proud of the outstanding results achieved in 2024, thanks to Oregonians' high level of participation in the system and continued advancements in the Oregon Model to make it work better for more people.

## **OBRC Network at a Glance**

Members & Participants	413
Employees in Oregon	509
Processing Plants	5
Clackamas, Eugene, Pendleton, Redmond, White City	
Plants Utilizing Smart Count Technology¹	3
Redemption Centers	27
Centers Utilizing Smart Count Technology¹	4
Centers Utilizing Stream Count Technology <sup>2</sup>	5
BottleDrop Express Sites	17
Dealer Redemption Centers	56
Retail Return Sites Served Q3	1,805
Reverse Vending Machines	676



OBRC is a statewide cooperative that receives no taxpayer funding from the State of Oregon.

'Smart Count AI devices are used to process Green and Blue Bags in our processing plants or back of house at Redemption Centers and are the fastest counting equipment in OBRC's system.

Time Saved Per Bag by Using Smart Count (vs Presort): 60 Seconds

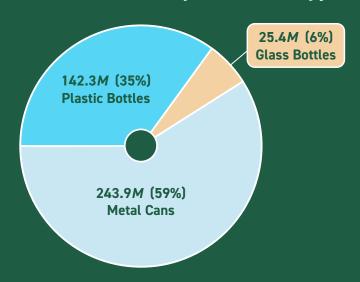
<sup>2</sup>Stream Count AI uses a neural network and artificial intelligence software to rapidly count a batch of containers as they pass by on a conveyer, and they are located on the customer-facing side of our Redemption Centers.

Time Saved per Customer by Using Stream Count (vs RVM) When Returning 350 Containers: 18 Minutes

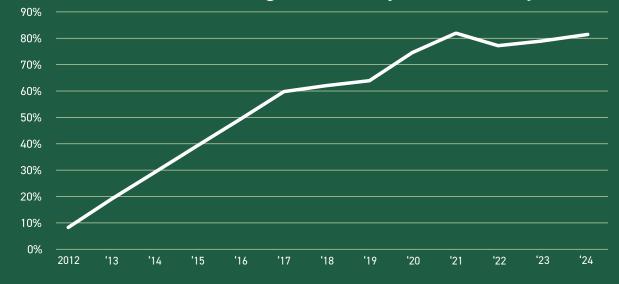
## **Quarterly Returns Through the BottleDrop Network**

Containers Redeemed Q4 411.6MGreen & Blue Bags Processed 2.9MMetric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent
Emissions Reduced\* 11,025

#### **Return Volume by Container Type**



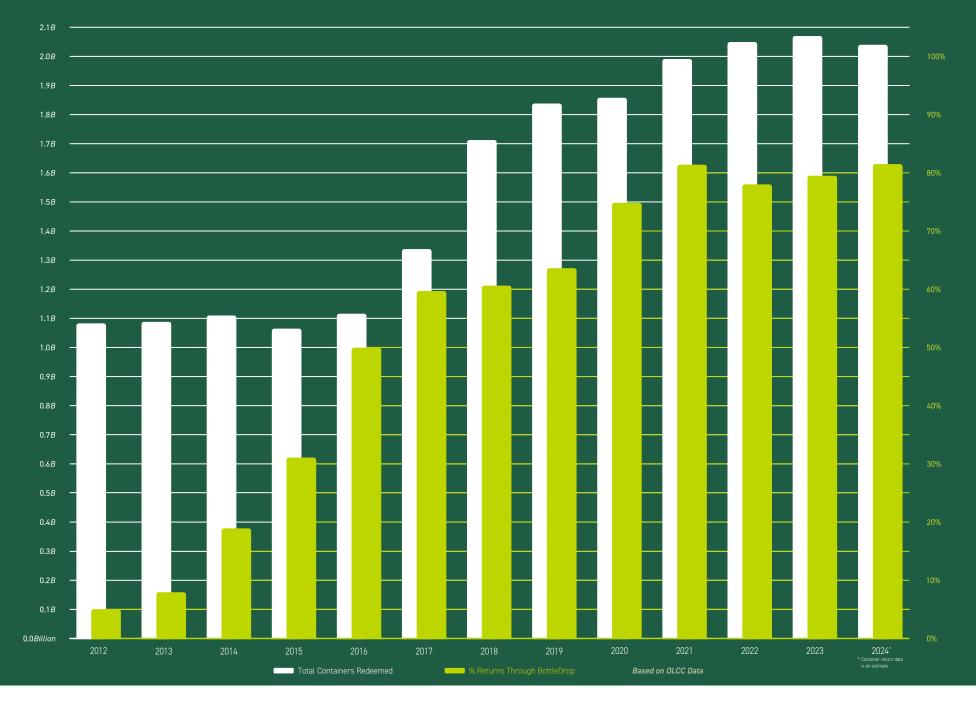
#### **% Returns Through BottleDrop Network Only**



**Q4 2024** - During Q4, Over 82% of returns came through Redemption Centers, Dealer Redemption Centers, and BottleDrop Express sites, demonstrating Oregonians continue to prefer redeeming containers through the BottleDrop network. Container redemptions through the BottleDrop network in Q4 were up slightly compared to Q4 2023 (2.2% increase).

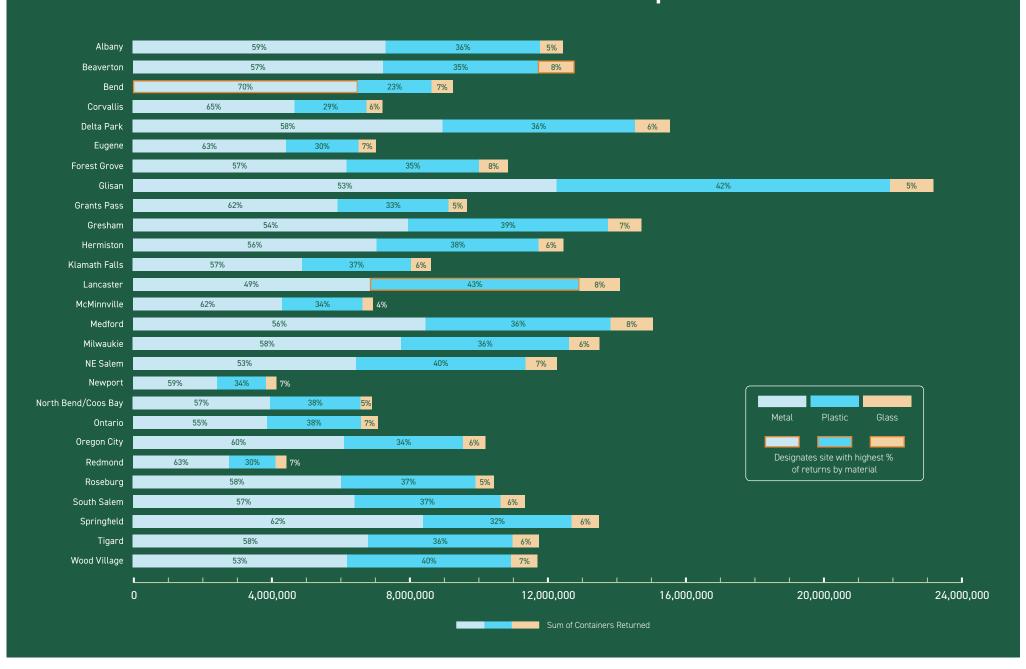
<sup>\*</sup>By recycling containers through the BottleDrop Network vs. sending containers to landfills, as calculated by US EPA Waste Reduction Model. Comparable to taking 2,341 passenger cars off the road.

## Container Return Volume Year-Over-Year





# Q4 Return Volume by Redemption Center & Material





BottleDrop Accounts		
New accounts added daily (avg)	231	
Q4 New Accounts	21,280	
Bend	728	
Eugene	1,935	
Hermiston	365	
Medford	1,050	
Portland	6,405	
Online	10,797	
Total BottleDrop Accounts	1,140,579	

The BottleDrop network ended the quarter with 9.3% more account holders than at the end of Q4 '23 (1,043,808) and 22.9% more than at the end of Q4 '22 (927,865).



Photo courtesy of Oregon Reign Softball



Photo courtesy of Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia NW



Photo courtesy of Cedar Mill Parent Teacher Club



Photo courtesy of Sisters Habitat for Humanity

## **BottleDrop Give**

Registered Nonprofit Fundrais	sers	6,938
Q4 New Give Accounts		206
Total Raised in Q4	\$1,4	401,543
Total Raised All-Time	\$33,3	389,658

#### **BottleDrop Give**

OBRC hosted its 8th annual Holiday Give campaign during Q4-24, with a record 1,152 nonprofits registering. During the 18-day matching period, participating nonprofits returned more than 32,000 Blue Bags and received over \$15,000 in online donations from Green Bag account holders. Including matching funds and social media prizes, OBRC helped Oregon nonprofits raise more than \$295,000 to support the great work they are doing to improve their communities across the state.



## **ORPET**

PET Processing - St. Helens, OR

Plastic Bottles Processed Q4 169.0M

Pounds of PET Processed 8.6*M* 

ORPET continues to be a steady source of high-grade rPET flake. It is all processed right here in Oregon and provides recycled content for new, high-quality products, reducing the reliance on virgin plastics.

Variations in ORPET's quarterly recycling data are due to fluctuations in processing throughput.

