The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act: Flow of Payments Under the Beverage Container Recycling Program

Beverage Manufacturers

- Buys beverage containers from container manufacturer
- Fills and sells beverage containers to distributor
- Pays processing fees to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

- Receives processing fees from beverage manufacturers
- Receives redemption payment from distributors
- Pays refund value and processing payment to processors
- Pays participants various other program payments
- Funds program administration, including:
  - Departmental administration
  - Handling fees
  - Public education and information campaigns
  - Grants
  - Quality incentive payments
  - Payments to cities and counties
  - Market development payments
  - Curbside supplemental payments
  - Incentive payments to recyclers

Processor

- Receives empty beverage containers from recycler
- Pays refund value, processing payments, and applicable scrap value to recycler
- Receives refund value and processing payment from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
- Cancels used beverage containers
- Sells empty beverage containers to container manufacturer or other end user

Recycler

- Receives empty beverage containers from consumer

- Pays refund value to consumer
- Receives CRV and processing payment from processor
- Sells empty beverage containers to processor

Consumer

- Buys beverage containers from retailer and pays redemption value
- Returns empty beverage containers to recycler
- Receives refund value

Retailer

- Buys beverage containers from distributor and pays redemption value
- Sells beverage containers to consumer and charges redemption value
- Redeems beverage containers when a convenience zone is unserved

Distributor

- Sells beverage containers to retailer and charges redemption value
- Pays redemption value to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Container Manufacturer

- Manufactures new beverage containers

Other End User

- Manufactures non beverage container products(e.g., fiberglass and carpets)