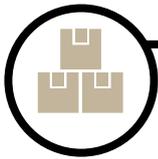


## Objectives and Benefits of the South Australian Container Deposit Scheme



### Product stewardship

The SA Container Deposit Scheme commenced in 1977 and is one of the longest running and successful product stewardship schemes in Australia. It acknowledges that those involved in producing, selling, using and disposing of products have a shared responsibility to ensure that those products or materials are managed to reduce environmental impacts throughout their life cycle. The CDS requires beverage suppliers to ensure that a system is in place for the recovery and recycling of eligible beverage containers.



### Resource recovery & recycling

SA depots are designed for the return of large amounts of beverage containers from the community.

Many of the depots accept a wide range of other recyclable materials. Each year around 600 million drink containers (over 40,000 tonnes) are returned for refund and recycling, representing a 77% return rate, preventing those containers from being littered or landfilled.

The retention and recirculation of high-value CDS container materials continues to enable a strong domestic market for recycling and processing these recovered resources into new products.



### Reducing litter

Discarded beverage containers adversely affect amenity and enjoyment of the outdoor environment, result in significant clean-up costs for local governments and other land managers and create environmental risks to wildlife.

Container deposit refunds create a financial incentive to collect containers for recycling. As a result, eligible beverage containers only contribute to 3% of total litter.



### Protecting the environment

The objects of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* (EP Act) promote the principles of ecologically sustainable development, preventing environmental harm and ensuring the circulation of materials through the waste management process to support a strong market for recovered resources.

Specific beverage container provisions in the EP Act prohibit the supply or sale of beverage containers unless there is a litter control and waste management arrangement in place to collect and recover those containers for recycling.



### Community participation

The container deposit scheme also provides a financial benefit, through fundraising to community groups, sporting clubs and charities that operate a depot, partner with an established depot or collect empty containers for refund.

The benefits to community groups and schools from CDS container deposit refunds are significant and flow on to the broader community via the wide variety of activities funded.