

## Return milk containers for a refund!

February 2022

Submitted by CRD Environmental Services

The [Return-It](#) deposit system in place in BC for beverage containers like juice, pop and water is expanding to include milk and plant-based beverage containers (almond, soy, oat, rice milk etc.). Beginning February 1, you will be charged a 10 cent deposit when you purchase these products and can return the empty containers to any Return-It depot, including the new [Express & GO](#) station at Hartland Landfill, for a refund along with your other beverage containers. Please be sure to rinse your containers before returning them.

This change does not include all dairy products, only ready-to-drink milk and plant-based beverage containers. All other dairy products will continue to be accepted through the curbside recycling program, which is collected on behalf of [Recycle BC](#), the organization responsible for residential packaging and paper product recycling throughout the province, as well as in your communal recycling bins if you live in an apartment.

### Recycling options for your milk and plant-based containers:

<b>New – 10 cent deposit (Feb 1)</b> <b>Return to depot for refund</b>	<b>Continuing – no deposit</b> <b>Place in residential recycling bin</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic jugs for milk and plant-based alternatives</li><li>• Plastic bottles for milk and plant-based alternatives</li><li>• Cartons for milk and plant-based alternatives</li><li>• Tetra Paks® for milk and plant-based alternatives</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meal supplements e.g. Boost, Ensure</li><li>• Infant formula</li><li>• Drink additives e.g. coffee creamers</li><li>• Drinkable yogurt e.g. Yop, Kefir</li><li>• Concentrates</li><li>• Buttermilk</li><li>• Whipping cream</li></ul>

While ready-to-drink milk and plant-based beverage containers will no longer be part of Recycle BC's program, they'll still be recycled if put in your curbside recycling bin; however, your deposit will be lost and this can increase the chance of scavenging – individuals sifting through recycling bins for refundable beverage containers.

### Tips to prevent scavenging:

- Don't include refundable beverage containers in your curbside recycling. Return to a depot, retailer or donate them to a bottle drive or community donation bin.
- Place your recycling at the curb by 7:30am on your collection day, instead of out the night before.
- Remove any personal information and shred sensitive paperwork (secure shredded paper in paper bag).

To learn more, or to find a Return-It depot near you, visit [www.return-it.ca/milk2022](http://www.return-it.ca/milk2022).

For more information on the curbside recycling program, visit [www.crd.bc.ca/curbside](http://www.crd.bc.ca/curbside).