

OTHER COMMENTS RECEIVED

Bill Potvin commented:

Dear Mr. Nelson, We run a 100 year old Ct. bottling co. that sterilizes hundreds of thousands of glass bottles every year. True environmental heroes. Many people in the Willimantic area are aware that HOSMER Mtn. bottles are worth more and they are thus more likely to be saved. Incentivising returnability with a 15 cent deposit on our glass bottles has helped reduce the spewing of CO2 into the air, and thus mitigating climate catastrophe. even at this level it is frustrating to see so many people continue to follow the "throw-a way mentality" Business interests are always the worst perpetrators of this ugly model. Supermarkets, distributors etc refuse to save even our own bottles, even with triple the reward. Our direct to consumer trade(two outlets and home delivery customers are much more on board with the concept of returns and reuse . Not sure that the 10 cent goal will reverse the trend of fading deposit rates, but do support it. Bill at Hosmer 234-8351

Jacqueline Pineau

Hello Chris, this new bottle bill has me very riled up. I sent the below email to my senator (Maroney), congresswoman (DeLauro) and state representative (Kennedy) and did not get a response from any of them. As stated in my email below, I feel that this new bottle bill is just an additional tax and burden to the CT residents. If deposits are the best way to recycle then the unclaimed funds need to be put to use to come up with a return facility that is much less time consuming than "feeding empties into a machine". Connecticut has made a ridiculous amount of money on unclaimed deposits, increasing the deposit and adding deposits to even more beverages is an outrage. I am very glad to hear that there is a public hearing being held. I will do my best to attend however, I have a full-time job and I'm a mother of 2. If not, I hope you are able to make my comments be heard.

I am writing to you today with concerns about the changes to the bottle bill. This is being pitched as something that will help the environment but it feels more like an additional tax to the residents of the state of Connecticut. Why do you think that the redemption rate is so low? Because working families don't have the time to take these items back to redemption locations. Working families barely have the time to sit down with their families and have a meal together. Now the state has not only doubled the "deposit" amount but are adding even more items that this deposit applies to tasking the working families to spend even more time in bottle redemption rooms. If this was truly all about the environment, then why do the unclaimed deposits go back to the state of CT? From my research, \$133M in revenue went to the state of CT in unclaimed deposits in a decade. This feels like a revenue raiser to me. If this was such a great thing to do for the environment, why do only 11 states have this bill in place?

If this is the only way, then something needs to be done to improve and automate the redemption process with the unclaimed deposits.

I hope that you take my concerns to heart and think about the negative impact this bill will have on all of the residents in the state. I do not view this as a positive change and I'm sure I am not the only one.

Best Regards,

Jacqueline Pineau
203-913-4021
Milford, CT

Todd Moler commented:

I will be voting every name I see on this bill OUT OF OFFICE.. The State Employees no longer represent the people of our state. I want to share my voice by scheduling a time for me to speak

Todd Moler



The Public's Adjuster LLC,
A private adjusting firm, advocating for policyholders interests
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Kathy Nelson commented:

This is in response to the Bottle Bill Modernisation Stakeholders Dialogue which took place on August 9, 2021.

Meeting ID # 952 8114 5235

Passcode 129250

My apologies for the pictures.

My support for a clean, safe redemption center in Bristol has been important to me since they closed the redemption center Bristol had.

My name is Kathy Nelson.

I was a Bristol resident for 25 years.

My activity in Bristol includes involvement with the Bristol Disabled Buggy Riders, helping with cans and bottles.

I served as a Commissioner on the Committee for Persons with Disabilities in Bristol as well.

I also raised remarkable money through cans and bottles for my grandson and his entire family as we all were dealt with learning of his CGD illness.

Currently I run the Can and bottle drives for Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach Center, 99 Summer Street, rear parking lot, Bristol, CT 06010. I have been doing that since September of 2018.

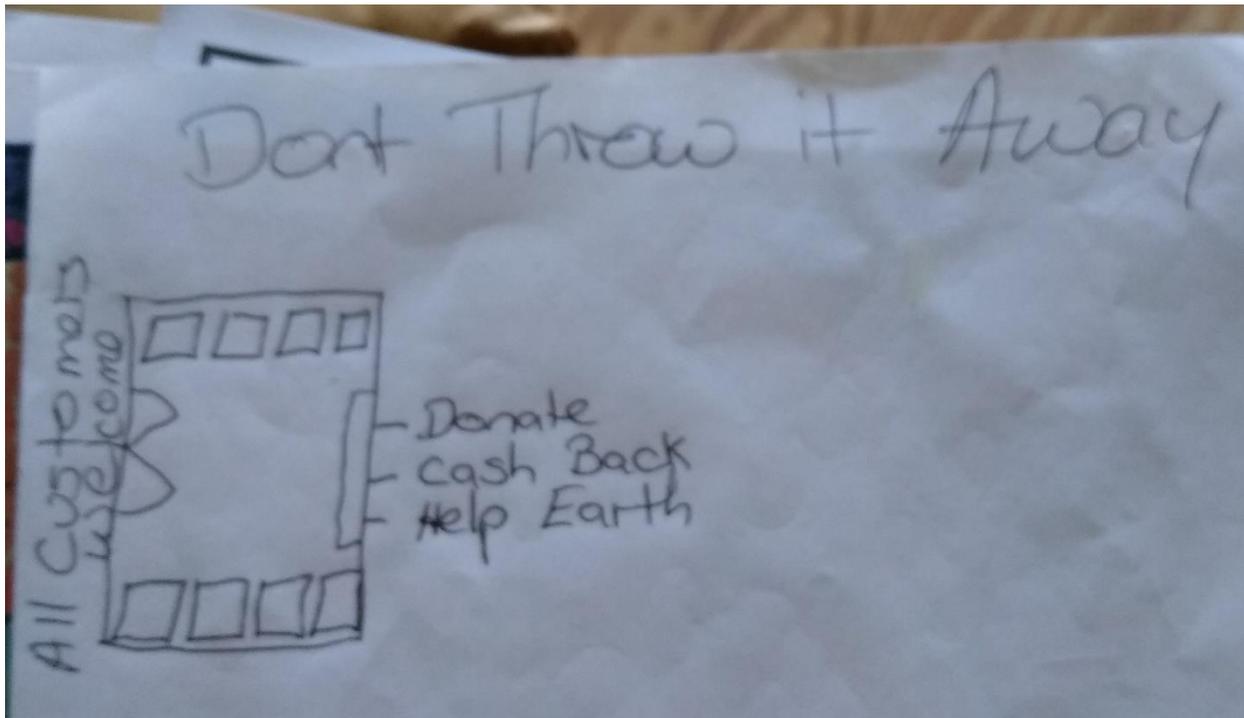
We were literally inundated with bags and boxes of canned plastic and glass returnables during covid of 2020.

I have an odd commitment to helping others via cans and bottles thanks to my father.

I also have the strength and support left to me by my husband, Ron Nelson Sr. and my entire family.

Commitment would be simple if there were one location, local to all, with access to all.

People will respect the fact they can not only recycle to help the planet, get cash in their own pocket for themselves, or donate that money to a worthy cause. Paying it forward.



By commitment, I believe people would use a redemption center on a regular basis. It is much more convenient than a line at the grocery store.

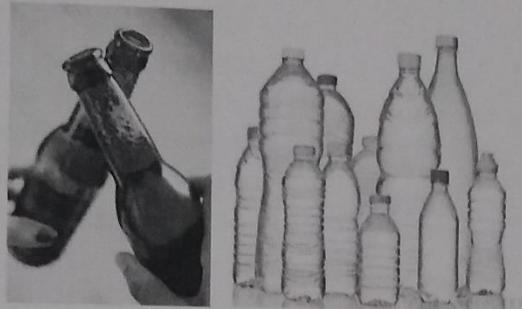
Establishing a can and bottle drive event needs to be done by choosing a date, time and location.

Advertising and fingers crossed are quite beneficial as well.

I currently have a list of 85 people that have volunteered with me over the past 3 years. Reaching out for those volunteers can be difficult sometimes. I reach for volunteers through groups on FB as well. There is always room for improvement.

I believe this flyer explains itself.

1907 (5)
Brian's Angels
2021 Can and Bottle Drive
99 Summer Street, rear parking lot
Bristol, CT Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18
11:00 - 3:00



PLEASE SORT (If possible)

GLASS PLASTIC CANS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to donate time and trucks.

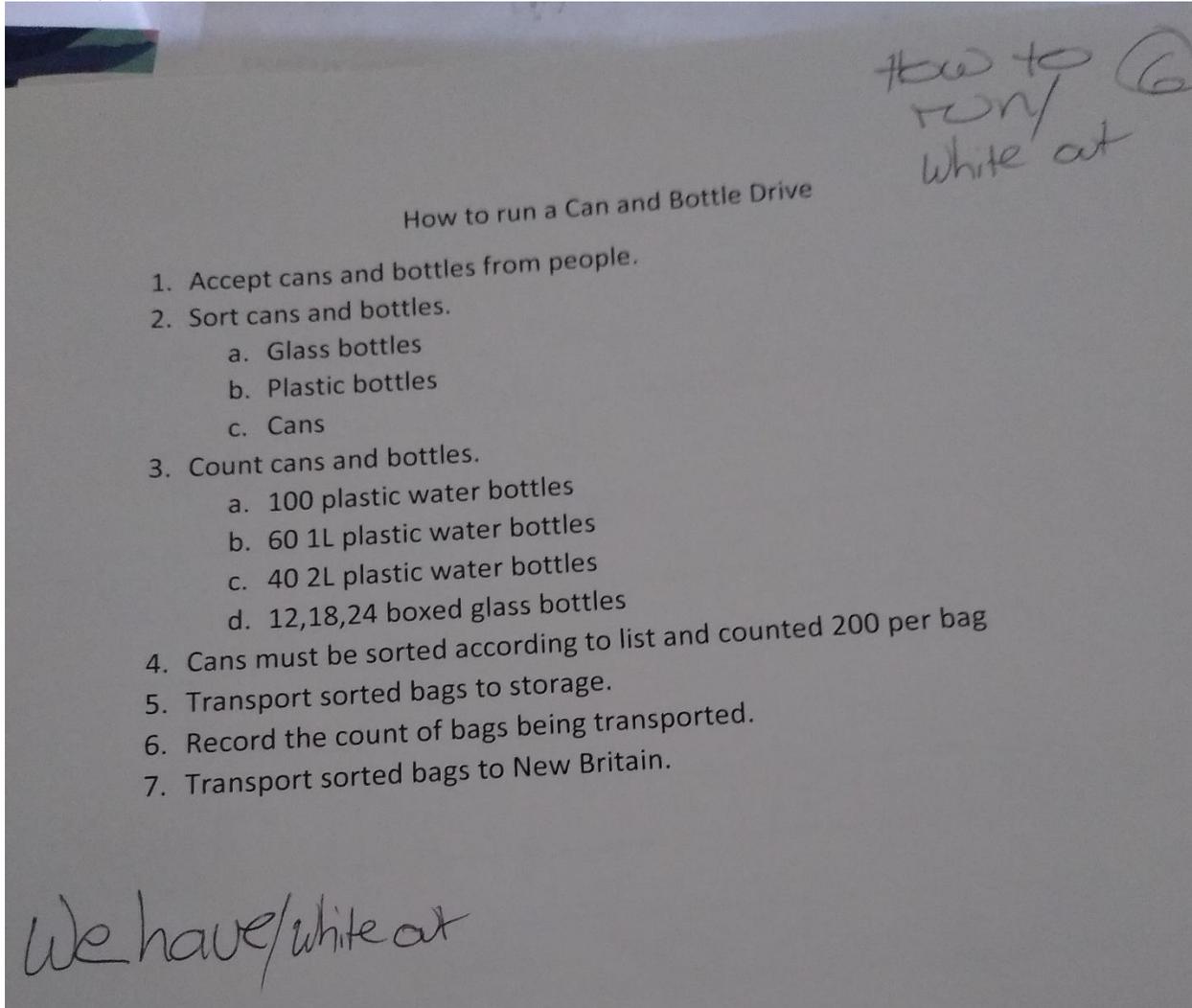
Collect donated cans and bottles from people.

Load trucks to transport collected cans and bottles.

Transport cans and bottles to storage.

(less than 1 mile driving from Brian's Angels to storage)

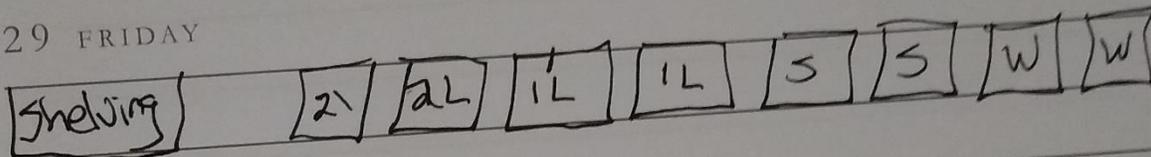
How to run a can and bottle drive explains the process we go through to redeem our cans and bottles currently.



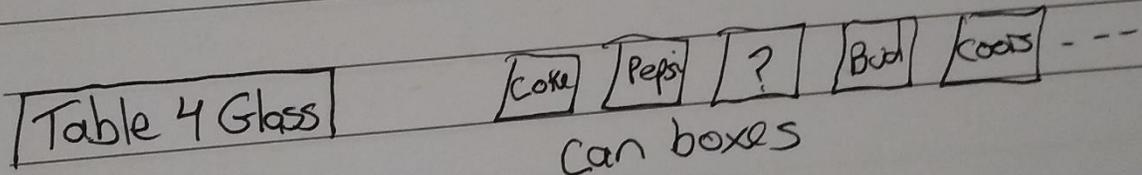
28 THURSDAY

Horse bags for recycling
Paper / cardboard
Get Containers? glass
plastic

29 FRIDAY



set up



This picture is what a wonderful set up would look like, if we at Brian's Angels had the space. All we would need is an electrical outlet for the radio, coffee pot and refrigerator, a few tables, supplies and volunteers. It's really simple but so complex. While we recycle cans and bottles for cash, we also recycle to respect the environment.

Why do I feel Bristol is a good location? People from Bristol will no longer need to travel to New Britain. I lived in Bristol for 25 years and use the redemption centers frequently. There is a need, to help others. In general, Girl Scout's, Boy Scout's, Churches, and many other locations do can and bottle drives in Bristol as well as Brian's Angels.

Brian's Angels has obtained regular locations that donate to us, some of which are CCMC in New Britain and Wood Acres Farm in Harwinton.

We also have our regular individual Bristol residents who are regulars at donating to Brian's Angels. All these groups and individuals could revolve around one location, in Bristol.

I refer to that as commitment.

To me it is plain and simple. All I have expressed explains how difficult redeeming cans and bottles, for any reason, actually is. I'm sure you are aware already. I would very much appreciate an application for employment when the redemption center opens.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Lisa Adelman commented:

Good Afternoon Chris,

Ocean State Job Lot ("OSJL") just became aware of the changes to the Bottle Bill Law, and is concerned about the timing and its ability to comply with the reverse vending machine requirement by 10/01.

It will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to come into compliance by this date, particularly if OSJL is required to place a machine at each of its OSJL locations.

Is there a process in which OSJL can request an extension? If there is not currently a process, can the Dept. kindly add this to a stakeholder consideration?

OSJL also currently has 13 CT store locations. Are we required to have a machine at each location?

May I also please be placed on any email notification list relating to the bottle bill moving forward?

Thank you,

Lisa A. Adelman, Esq.
Corporate Counsel
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Tim Bishop commented:

Hi Chris. I think the following need to be addressed when you update the bottle bill. First and foremost, every retailer who collects deposits on bottles they sell should be required to accept every bottle subject to a deposit as a return. It is unacceptable that consumers have to return bottles to the specific retailer they purchase from. The inconvenience to consumers is unwarranted. People bring bottles to the house when we have picnics, or I bring bottles home when I travel and there's no way to return them. It's unfair.

Second, there should be separate bulk redemption and small redemption facilities. If less than 100 items to redeem there should be a separate place (even if a separate line like the express line in supermarkets). Waiting behind people with a vanload of bottles to redeem a couple cases is brutal.

Third, I don't care if you jack up the cost of the deposit, but it should be done in concert with adjoining states and all of New England. I think more than 10 cents would be punitive, but perhaps the type of container could be a different deposit. If plastic is the worst aluminum next and glass last, make it 15/10/5. Maybe extend the deposit to wine bottles and liquor. Maybe include milk and juice containers.

Barbara Spielman commented:

Hi Chris,

I would like to voice my opinion that the bottle bill is no longer necessary in CT at all. This is an additional tax on all residents. For those of us who choose to recycle responsibly with city provided single stream recycling, we are taxed twice. The recycling stations are not safe places.

I ask you to abolish the five cent tax on all bottles I'm CT.

Thanks for your attention,
Barbara Spielman

onedar commented:

I oppose the 10 cents container return, however expanding what containers can be recycled is a smart move. I have always wondered why iced tea cans were not included. So to conclude, 10 cents, NO! Connecticut will increase their 'tax' income by expanding what can be returned. That would be a win-win for everyone.

Connecticut is already taxed to death. I am a senior citizen on a fixed income. I try very hard to control my expenses and still I am financially stressed. Connecticut hasn't done much for their senior citizens. Most states don't tax Social Security income. It would be the best gift if Connecticut would do the right thing for it's senior citizens.

Darlene Cardonita

I goodsearch & goodshop for The Last Resort Animal Rescue
www.goodsearch.com THESE LITTLE RIPPLES OF KINDNESS ADD UP TO
OCEANS OF GREATNESS www.soldiersangels.org

Lisa Rak commented:

Good Day,

I saw a news story on WTNH this morning regarding changes in the bottle bill.

I would like to recommend implementing a deposit on the shooter/nip bottles that the package stores sell. These bottles are all of the street in just about any town you live in as people shoot them down and fling them out their car window. Actually they should have a \$1.00 deposit so make it actually worth the trouble of buying them.

Also, wondering why we can only return bottle from the stores that sell those products. Once the bottle is recycled it doesn't matter if Pepsi, Coke, Kirkland or Sams sold the item it's still worth .05 cents. It would make it easier for consumers to return these items.

Thank you for your time,

Regards,
Lisa Rak

Ward Doering commented:

Given the long lines and unsanitary procedures at redemption sites today, the current 5 cent deposit has already become a failed de-facto tax leading to increased landfill and recycling abuse.

The proposed bill not only doubles the tax (see above) but adds myriad additional day to day items to the existing tax.

Implementation of the new bill will lead inevitably to consumer class action lawsuits, increasing the inexcusable taxation of the poor and elderly.

Have a Blessed Day

Ward Doering
Glastonbury, CT

Penny Newbury commented:

Hi Chris:

I'm wondering if you can clear up whether the grants program will indeed **include funds for existing recycling centers** as well as new ones. I have received several bits of correspondence indicating that the grant is indeed meant to assist current centers in upgrading their facilities, especially in rural areas.

If the objective was to provide funding only for new centers and NOT help small centers stay alive, then my written testimony will be a bit different!

Thanks for your time.

Penny Newbury

new beverage container redemption centers that are located in
2398 communities that lack access to beverage container redemption
2399 locations. Such grant program shall prioritize the award of such grants
2400 to first-time redemption center owners **and those that are locally-**
2401 owned, minority-owned and women-owned businesses. When
2402 awarding grants pursuant to such program, the Commissioner of
2403 Energy and Environmental Protection, or the commissioner's designee,
2404 shall consider current access to beverage container redemption sites,
2405 walking distances to such sites, public access to reliable transportation,
2406 population density, customer convenience, type of redemption
2407 technology to be deployed and the volume of beverage containers sold
2408 in the relevant community.

Penny Newbury

Director of Grants & Communications

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