



March 31, 2026

Handling Fee Guidance

With the recent passage of Public Act 26-2, certain changes have taken effect to Connecticut's Bottle Redemption Law. Section 1 of Public Act 26-2 sets forth a provision in which the handling fee for all beverage containers must be reduced by no more than one cent for a period starting April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Such reduction is applicable to any redemption center that meets the following two factors: (1) on average, annually redeems 50 million beverage containers or more as confirmed by the Department in consultation with Department of Revenue Services and (2) does not utilize automated barcode or UPC scanners for redemption.

The Department recognizes the fast-approaching deadlines included in Public Act 26-2 and seeks to implement the handling fee provision as soon as practicable. Given the challenges in gathering the required data, the Department is asking all redemption centers to provide a sworn affidavit (i.e., notarized) by 5:00 pm on April 8, 2026 with the information noted below. Submit the affidavit to deep.mmcaplanning@ct.gov and also send the original, hard copy to DEEP postmarked no later than April 8, 2026.

The information will be reviewed by the Department to determine which redemption centers are subject to a reduced handling fee. By April 30, 2026, the Department will issue further guidance on the reduced handling fee.

Affidavit Language:

All redemption centers owners or operators must submit to the Department a sworn affidavit that contains the following information no later than April 8, 2026. A template of the affidavit is attached to this guidance. Such information is necessary for the Department to determine whether any redemption center meets the requirements set forth in section 1 of Public Act 26-2. Failure to submit an affidavit may impact a redemption center's annual registration or annual license.

1. Name of the owner or operator
2. Name and address of redemption center
3. Responses to the following statements:
 - For calendar year 2025, how many beverage containers did your redemption center process?
 - Does this redemption center utilize automated barcode or universal product code scanning for the redemption of all such beverage containers? If yes, describe the technology including the make, model and provide a photo of your system(s).



AFFIDAVIT

TO: Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

RE: Public Act 26-2, Section 1, Container Redemption Law

I, the undersigned, having been duly sworn, deposes and verifies:

1. That I am over 18 years of age and understand that I am under oath to supply the requested information to the best of my knowledge.
2. That I own or operate (redemption center name) _____ located at (address) _____.
3. That for calendar year 2025, the redemption center processed (number) _____ beverage containers.
4. That the redemption center (does/does not) _____ utilize automated barcode or universal product code scanning for the redemption of all such beverage containers? If the redemption center does utilize such technology, describe the technology including the make and model (in box below).

5. Attached to this affidavit is a photo of the system(s).
(please attach)



Dated at _____, Connecticut this ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

(signature of person giving affidavit)

(print name)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

(signed by Notary Public or a Commissioner of the
Superior Court)

(print name)

My commission expires: _____

Notary Public seal: