



# Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



# Bottle Bill Update

November 1, 2022 SWAC Meeting



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

# Discussion Topics

1. \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures
2. Stewardship Organization
3. Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program
4. Upcoming Changes to the Bottle Bill



# 1. \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures



# \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures

## Overview

- Effective Oct. 1, 2021
- Wholesalers must assess a \$0.05 fee on all miniature alcohol bottles sold to retailers
- Revenues from the \$0.05 fee are disbursed by the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of CT (WSWC) on behalf of wholesalers to municipalities each April and October (began April 2022)



# \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures

## A Reminder

- Miniatures are not part of the deposit redemption system
- No state involvement aside from receiving semiannual report from wholesalers/WSWC



# \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures

## Payments

- Summary of payments made to municipalities by WSWC for the first 6-month period can be found online at:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/reduce\\_reuse\\_recycle/bottles/WSWC\\_payments\\_to\\_towns\\_for\\_minis\\_Oct21\\_Mar22.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/reduce_reuse_recycle/bottles/WSWC_payments_to_towns_for_minis_Oct21_Mar22.pdf)



# \$0.05 Fee on Miniatures

## How can these funds be used by municipalities?

- Public Act 21-58 specifies that “All payments received by any municipality... shall be expended by such municipality on environmental measures intended to reduce the generation of solid waste in such municipality or reduce the impact of litter caused by such solid waste, including, but not limited to, the hiring of a recycling coordinator, the installation of storm drain filters designed to block solid waste and beverage container debris or the purchase of mechanical street sweeper, vacuum or broom that removes litter, including, but not limited to, such beverage containers and other debris from streets, sidewalks and abutting lawn and turf areas.”





# 2. Stewardship Organization



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# Stewardship Organization

## Overview

- PA 21-58 Sec. 9 created a pathway for the formation of a stewardship organization constituted by deposit initiators in the state
- The prospective stewardship organization would have to submit an application to DEEP and submit a draft stewardship plan to DEEP by July 1, 2022



# Stewardship Organization

## Current Status

- Application for a stewardship organization received by DEEP in January 2022
  - Awaiting verification of one of the criteria from PA 21-58
- Draft Stewardship Plan received by DEEP on July 1, 2022



# Stewardship Organization

## Next Steps

- DEEP expects to be able to approve the organization's application soon
- DEEP has asked the applicant to provide an updated stewardship plan
- DEEP intends to release the updated stewardship plan for a public comment period



# Stewardship Organization

## Of Note

- By law, once the organization is approved all deposit initiators in the state shall register with and join the organization
- By law, DEEP cannot approve a plan unless it has received input from specific industry stakeholders
- DEEP does not intend to put forward any legislation pertaining to the bottle bill in 2023



# 3. Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program



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# Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program

## Overview

- The 2021 budget created Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program to provide up to \$5 million in grants for redemption centers
- Targets new redemption center owners, locally-, minority-, and women-owned
- Eligible only in Environmental Justice Communities



# Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program

## Current Status

- Application period closed on October 3, 2022
- 16 applications received
- DEEP bringing on a vendor to administer the program





# 4. Upcoming Changes to the Bottle Bill



# Upcoming Changes to the Bottle Bill

## January 1, 2023

- Covered beverages expand to include items such as juices, teas, sports drinks, coffee drinks, energy drinks, and more

## January 1, 2024

- Deposit increases from \$0.05 to \$0.10



# Thank You

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