

Media Release

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Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
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VICTORIA'S CDS HITS OVER 100 MILLION CONTAINER DEPOSITS

Victorians in every corner of the state have thrown their support behind the Allan Labor Government's Container Deposit Scheme – returning more than 100 million containers, and pocketing over \$10 million in refunds in just two months.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos marked the milestone today at the new Return-It depot at South Melbourne – one of around 400 convenient refund points across the state.

The CDS is breaking records every week, with a staggering 15.8 million containers collected in the week before Christmas and a record 17.1 million containers returned last week. The biggest day to date was Friday 5 January with 3.18 million containers returned.

The CDS is processing an average of around 10 million cans, cartons and bottles across the state every week, with Victorians returning an average of 129 containers per transaction.

Regional Victorians continue to step up to the challenge in impressive numbers, with Mildura leading the state in container returns having returned over 4.1 million containers. Shepparton rivals this turnout with more than 2.6 million containers collected, followed by Kangaroo Flat (more than 2.1 million) and Ballarat South (2 million).

Melton has been Melbourne's best-performing refund point, having returned an astounding 3.9 million cans, glass and PET plastics, followed by the Hallam depot with more than 2.6 million.

Of all the containers returned since the scheme commenced, aluminium cans have been the most popular making up 53 percent of returns, followed by PET (26 percent), glass (18 percent).

Container returns continue to increase and Victoria's network of refund points will continue to grow to meet demand, making the scheme the most convenient and accessible in the country.

Victorians can choose to pocket the refund or donate their containers to one of the 1600 participating charities, sports, community, environmental or educational groups.

Returned drink containers can be transformed into all kinds of new things, including material for roads, furniture, construction, textiles and more – creating new economic opportunities and will support more than 600 jobs across Victoria.

The Labor Government has invested \$515 million to transform the Victoria's waste and recycling system, helping us achieve our target of diverting 80 per cent of all material away from landfill by 2030.

To find your nearest refund point and for more information, visit cdsvic.org.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

"It's remarkable to see so many Victorians get involved in recycling, providing 100 million containers and counting for re-use in new products instead of going to landfill or ending up in the environment and harming our wildlife."

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“The CDS is a great initiative to get people recycling – we’re rewarding Victorians who do the right thing, reducing litter and making sure recyclable product don’t end up in landfill.”

Quote attributable to Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor

“The new South Melbourne depot is such an exciting opportunity for our local community to make a big difference to the environment – supporting local charities and putting money in Victorians’ pockets.”

Top 10 metro refund points:

1. CDS Vic Depot Melton (3.9 million)
2. Return-It Hallam (2.6 million)
3. Return-It Pakenham (1.8 million)
4. CDS Vic Depot Williamstown (1.8 million)
5. Nu Container Recycling Carrum Downs (1.6 million)
6. Nu Container Recycling Braeside (1.6 million)
7. Scouts Glen Waverley (1.4 million)
8. Roxburgh Village (1.2 million)
9. Craigieburn Central (1.2 million)
10. Return-It Oakleigh (1.2 million)

Top 10 regional refund points:

1. Exchange Depot Mildura (4.1 million)
2. FOOTT Shepparton (2.6 million)
3. Envirobank Kangaroo Flat (2.1 million)
4. CDS Vic Depot Ballarat South (2 million)
5. CDS Vic Depot Horsham (1.7 million)
6. Envirobank East Bendigo (1.7 million)
7. Exchange Depot Wangaratta (1.6 million)
8. La Trobe Valley Enterprises Morwell (1.5 million)
9. Tambo Recycling Centre Sale (1.4 million)
10. Exchange Depot Wodonga (1.4 million)