



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

PAUL MERCER
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

To: Redemption Center owners & operators, Contracted Agents, Manufacturers and Distributors participating in Maine's Container Redemption Program
From: Scott Wilson and Carole Ciffrino
Date: May 8, 2017
Re: Implementation of Chapter 426, Responsibilities under the Returnable Beverage Container Law, and new program staff at Maine DEP

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) new rule for the Beverage Container Redemption Program, Chapter 426, Responsibilities under the Returnable Beverage Container Law, is effective as of today, May 8, 2017. We want to thank all of you who provided input before and during the rule-making process as we developed this rule to supersede the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Chapter 360. You can find the new rule at http://maine.gov/dep/sustainability/bottlebill/index.html, or let us know if you would like us to mail you a hard copy. This rule was developed based on Chapter 360, with changes focused on clarifying responsibilities for label registration and initiation of deposit consistent with 38 M.R.S. Chapter 33, Maine's container redemption law.

Please note that in certain circumstances DACF and DEP previously allowed more than one distributor of a brand to register specific product labels and act as the Initiator of Deposit (IoD), but Chapter 426 clarifies that the brand owner is responsible for registering product labels and initiating deposit whenever it has products of the same brand distributed by more than one entity. If you are a brand owner with products of the same brand registered for 2017 with different IoDs, you may maintain your existing arrangements for this calendar year or can choose to transition IoD responsibilities sooner. If you have questions about how to make this transition, please contact Scott Wilson (207-446-1187, scott.wilson@maine.gov) or Kelly Webster (207-215-1579, Kelly.b.webster@maine.gov).

During the implementation of this change, redemption centers will be notified by the IoDs whenever there is a change to sorting requirements (e.g., a reduction in the number of sorts required for a particular brand) or in pick-up agents.

We are very pleased to have Kelly Webster working with us in administering Maine's Container Redemption Program. Kelly joins us with extensive experience in licensing, administration, and customer service. She is working full time in the program, and has primary responsibility for reviewing label registration and redemption center applications, and will also provide compliance assistance to manufacturers, distributors, and redemption centers as needed. We know you will find her responsive and helpful when you have the opportunity to work with her.

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

Now that this initial rule-making is complete, we are turning our attention to better understanding opportunities to increase efficiencies and decrease the costs of implementing Maine's Container Redemption law. We look forwards to meeting and talking with many of you throughout this next year. In the meantime, please contact us with any questions, concerns and ideas you may have (Scott's contact information is above, and you may reach Carole at 207-485-8160 or carole.a.cifrino@maine.gov).