



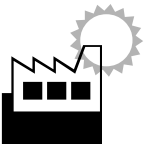
# FACT SHEET:

## Plastic bottle recycling in New York State

- About **8 billion** carbonated beverage containers were recycled in New York State last year--or about 80% of those sold. About 70% of purchased cans and bottles are recovered through the existing beverage container deposit law, or “bottle bill,” and another 10-15% are recycled through residential curbside recycling programs. This compares to the average of only 22% container recycling in non-bottle bill states.
- The bottle bill places a **fully-refundable 5¢ deposit** on beer and soda containers, keeping valuable resources out of landfills and incinerators, and reducing litter.
- Since 1983, over **90 billion** bottles and cans have been recycled through New York’s bottle bill, saving energy and resources, and cutting down on pollution.
- Unfortunately, non-carbonated beverages were not included in the original bottle bill, because they didn’t exist at that time in single serving sizes, and therefore were not a litter or disposal problem. **Times have changed**. Non-fizzy drinks (iced tea, sports drinks, juices, and bottled water) are now 25% of the beverage market.
- It’s time to update the bottle bill to include about 3.1 billion non-carbonated drinks, including 2.6 billion plastic bottles. Plastic bottles are made from **petroleum**. If we recycled just 70% of these water, sports drink, tea, and juice bottles, we would:



***Keep 64 thousand tons of plastic out of NY landfills & incinerators***



***Save almost 600 thousand barrels of crude oil equivalent per year***

***Reduce greenhouse gases by 20,000 metric tons of carbon equivalent/year***



***Cut down on toxic air and water pollution***



Main office: 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. • Suite 800 • Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 263-0999 \* [www.container-recycling.org](http://www.container-recycling.org) • [www.bottlebill.org](http://www.bottlebill.org)

Northeast office: 2 Pomeroy Ave. • Dalton, MA 01226 • (413) 684-4746  
[jgitlitz@container-recycling.org](mailto:jgitlitz@container-recycling.org)