



## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



### DETERMINING YOUR REDEMPTION CENTER CATEGORY

This is to help complete the “**Redemption Center Registration and Approval Form**” (the **Form**).

- A key term is “Dealer.” In the Container Control Law, “Dealer” describes ALL businesses like grocery stores, convenience stores, bars and restaurants that sell to consumers cans and bottles of carbonated or alcoholic or mineral water beverages.
- “Dealers” that sell for consumption off their premises (grocery and convenience stores, not bars and restaurants) have to redeem cans and bottles.
- You may be in more than one Category, be sure to complete all Sections that apply.
- Every applicant Completes at least Section 1 of the Form and signs it on page 3.

**An “Approved” Redemption Center** – has DNR-certified approval for it to relieve a Dealer from having to redeem customers’ empties. The Dealer is instead certified to direct customers to return their empties to the ‘Approved’ Redemption Center.

- To be ‘Approved,’ a redemption center must provide convenient service for a Dealer’s customers. “Convenient service” means, in part, that the redemption center must be open at least 20 hours a week, including at least 4 hours either on Saturday or Sunday or between 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM, and that it is not more than about a 10 minute drive from the Dealer.
- Application to be an “Approved” Redemption Center requires a signed written agreement (called ‘consent’) with at least one Dealer, so as to then be designated to accept the kinds, sizes and brands of beverage containers that are sold by the Dealer(s).
- Complete Section 2 of the Form, which includes attaching the signed written agreement(s) with authorized signature(s).

**A Redemption Center for a Dealer** – is open to the public and also has a signed written agreement with at least one Dealer to provide them container handling or sorting services.

- Common examples are
  - picking up empties from a Dealer, or
  - accepting empties that are delivered from a Dealer to the redemption center.
- Distributors have to pick up containers from these redemption centers just as they have to from “Approved” redemption centers.
- If you are open to the public, AND have an agreement with a Dealer to pick up empties that are at the Dealer’s business OR you provide sorting and handling services for Dealers that bring empty containers to your redemption center,
- Complete Section 3 of the Form.

**A Dealer Agent** – is anyone who picks up empties from a Dealer, but that is not open to the general public. Distributors are not required to pick up containers from Dealer Agents. Dealer Agents bring empties to the Distributors unless otherwise agreed upon.

- If you are NOT open to the public, AND have an agreement with a Dealer to pick up containers from that Dealer OR provide sorting and handling services for Dealers that bring empty containers to your redemption center,
- Complete only Section 1 of the Form.

**An Unapproved Redemption Centers** – is any redemption center that is not in one of the above Categories. They are still required to apply to be Registered with the DNR, and we issue certificates verifying they are officially established.

- If you do not fall into one or more of the above Categories you are an “Unapproved” Redemption Center.
- Complete only Section 1 of the Form.