



The Container Refund Scheme which is run by COntainer EXchange (COEX) is now operating in Queensland, primarily established to reduce the number of drink containers that litter our environment or end up in our waterways or landfill but also to provide an income stream for non profit groups.

Springfield Lakes Nature Care Inc. (SLNC) is the only environmental group in our region and we have registered with COEX, as a virtual donation point.

Our group would like to hold some free workshops for the community and fund activities to help support our fauna. You can help us raise funds by donating your refund from the beverage containers to our group simply by stating our Scheme's ID code C10002285. 85% of the containers collected are mandated to be recycled, so by not putting the glass, aluminium, plastic or Tetra Pak containers in your yellow bin, you also ensure that these items are recycled and help the environment. However, please remove all lids - these can still be collected and taken in separately for recycling and lastly, do not crush the cans or bottles as the barcodes need to be read.

The beverage containers that are eligible are items generally consumed away from home; such as soft drinks, water bottles, iced coffee or flavoured milk, juice in small Tetra Pak juice containers or pop tops, along with beer and alcopop bottles. Most containers will display the 10c refund message somewhere on the back or bottom of the container. Drink containers that are generally consumed at home like cordial, plain milk, wine bottles and spirit bottles and other containers such as condiments and cleaning products are excluded from the COEX Container Refund Scheme.

There are a few different types of container refund points available.

Depots: Drop off your eligible containers at The Big Red Shed, Darra; 18 Sumners Road, DARRA. Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7.30am to 4.30pm & Saturday 8.39 am to 1.30 pm or at TOMRA Recycling Centre, at 355 Brisbane Street, West Ipswich. Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7am to 7pm, Sat-Sun 7am to 5pm. When taking the receipt for the number of containers to the cashier, just state SLNC's ID code C10002285 and the funds will be directly deposited into our bank account.

Drop-offs: Place your containers in bags, (some specify see-through bags so that staff are not endangered by items that aren't containers) print a sticker or write SLNC's ID code C10002285 on masking tape with permanent marker pen and stick it to the bag, which you can either drop into a bin or hand to staff. These will be counted later and funds debited to our registered account. Many drop-off points require glass bottles to be in a separate bag from the plastic and cans. The nearest Bag drop offs to Springfield are: Re.Turn-it @ Lifeline, Redbank Plains; 2 Shannon St, (Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm, Sat 9am to 4pm) or Re.Turn-it @ Salvos, Browns Plains; Bag- 58 Eastern Road, (Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am to 5pm).

Organisation specific drop-off points: these are cages/bins which allow anyone to donate their beverage containers to an organisation that they support. When collected by the refund point company, all containers in the cage/bin will be deemed to be from the organisation with the Scheme's ID. SLNC is currently working on getting a cage for container drop-offs, so watch this space!

You can also visit the BVLVD Restaurant at Spring Lake Metro (shop 7/1 Springfield Lakes Boulevard) and have a drink for us. The restaurant is the first business that is donating the empty drink containers they collect from tables to SLNC- thank you BVLVD.

If any other businesses would like to donate to our group, please contact our group to arrange a suitable time so we can address a bin swap service. Perhaps you can even do an eco-friendly walk, by picking up some beverage containers from around the parks and neighbourhood to keep our suburb looking clean and keep our lakes litter free

All the information you need can be found at the Containers for Change website <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/>

If you wish to become a member of our land and water care group, membership is free, please contact info@springfieldlakesnaturecare.org.au. Meetings are held at 5.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month at council community rooms or you can follow us on www.facebook.com/SpringfieldLakesNatureCare to check out what events are happening.

