

EXCLUDED BEVERAGE PRODUCTS

BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Effective April 1, 2026, the Government of Prince Edward Island (PEI) is transitioning its Beverage Container Program to an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) model. The province's [Environmental Protection Act Materials Stewardship and Recycling Regulations](#), which govern all PEI EPR programs, outline how EPR rules will apply to beverage containers, including which types of beverage products and containers will be included in the EPR Program.

The *Regulations* define a “beverage container” as:

“a sealed container, including all its component parts, that contains a beverage in a quantity that does not exceed five litres, and includes a box or similar container used to contain, handle, protect, deliver or present refillable glass beer bottles.”

The *Regulations* define a “beverage” as:

“a ready-to-serve liquid that is intended for human consumption, but does not include milk, plant-based milk product alternatives that are fortified and a source of protein, unprocessed apple cider, concentrated drinks, infant formula, meal replacements or formulated liquid diets.”

[These definitions and their interpretations are consistent with those used in New Brunswick](#), ensuring consistency and harmonization across the Atlantic Provinces.

Excluded products will be exempt from deposits and container recycling fees (CRFs). They will not be accepted for deposit refunds at return locations. Encorp will identify excluded products as follows.

- **Milk** - The beverage must be labelled as some sort of milk. This includes cow and goat milk labelled as “fat-free/skim milk” (0% M.F.), “partly skimmed milk” (1% or 2% M.F.), or “whole/homogenized milk” (3.25% M.F.). It also includes flavoured milk, like strawberry or chocolate milk.
- **Plant-based milk product alternatives that are fortified and a source of protein** - The beverage must be labelled as “fortified.” The label must also NOT have any warning indicating it is “not a source of protein.”
- **Unprocessed apple cider** - The beverage’s label must have no mention of being heated, pasteurized or otherwise processed.
- **Concentrated beverages** - These beverages are not considered “ready-to-drink”, because they need to be mixed or diluted before drinking. Examples include cocktail mixes, frozen juices, syrups, condensed milk, coffee cream, cereal cream, flavour enhancers, etc.
- **Infant formula** - The beverage must be labelled as “infant formula.”
- **Meal replacements** - The beverage must be labelled as “meal replacement.”
- **Formulated liquid diets** - The beverage must be labelled as “formulated liquid diet.”