

Support for Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

Liana Vitali <rpvita23@aacounty.org>
To: AA_ENT@mlis.state.md.us

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Hello,

I am an Anne Arundel County Naturalist at [Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary](#) - a 1700 acre nature preserve 40 min south of Annapolis. **I am writing to express immense support for the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program.**

Every Friday morning since 2020 I have hosted a program called Field Work Friday that brings staff and volunteers together to tackle a stewardship project at the Sanctuary. Frequently, the project involves removing trash from our park, roadsides, and waterways. For some of our cleanups that occur along waterways, we log every item we find into the Clean Swell app hosted by the Ocean Conservancy. We know down to the bottle how many beverage containers our volunteers have cleaned up at Jug Bay park properties these past five years.

Conservatively, this number is **25,114 glass, plastic, or aluminum beverage containers along just 1 mile of Patuxent River shoreline.** And this is just our cleanups along our waterways and does not include roadside or park dumping.

This legislative action would be invaluable to the health of our Maryland ecosystems which, in turn, is directly related to our own health and well-being. I am hopeful an impactful program like the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

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**The Best Place
For All**

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**Please note my duties as a Naturalist often limit my available desk time. I strive to respond to emails within the same work week however field work demands may extend my response window. If you need to reach me sooner, please call the Sanctuary at the above number.*