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BottleDrop customers give big for McKenzie area fire recovery

Donation to McKenzie CDC will help community rebuild after Holiday Farm Fire

Clackamas, Ore. -- The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC), parent organization to [BottleDrop](#), announced a \$2,500 donation to the McKenzie Community Development Corporation (McKenzie CDC), which fosters economic, environmental, and community well-being in the McKenzie River area. The donation, generated through BottleDrop's [Containers for Change](#) program, will support rebuilding efforts in the valley after the Holiday Farm Fire.

OBRC is also making a donation from the Containers for Change program to Rogue Valley Habitat for Humanity to support fire recovery in Southern Oregon's Jackson County.

"Families and communities continue their work to recover and rebuild from the Holiday Farm Fire, long after the flames were extinguished," said Eric Chambers, OBRC's External Relations Director. "We wanted to make it easy to help them by creating a straightforward way for BottleDrop customers to support projects like this with funds from their bottles and cans."

BottleDrop's Containers for Change program provides Oregonians with an easy way to donate funds from their bottles and cans to excellent nonprofits operating in communities around the state. BottleDrop customers can participate by simply leaving their bag tag stickers off of their Green Bags, and dropping them off at any BottleDrop facility, like the Redemption Center in Springfield, Ore.

"The MCDC is very grateful, not only to OBRC but also to our local Bottle Boys for the tremendous work they do collecting cans and bottles for the community. Their love for the Valley is shown in the hard work and long hours put in. This is another example of being McKenzie Strong. Thank you!" said Jeffry Dehne, President of McKenzie CDC.

Marilyn Cross, a McKenzie CDC volunteer, noted that BottleDrop's new fundraising opportunity, coupled with the community's generous response with bottle donations and the tireless work of the McKenzie CDC's "Bottle Boys" – volunteers who help coordinate can and bottle donations, has generated \$7,500 toward the rebuilding of four public buildings lost to the Holiday Farm Wildfire: the McKenzie Valley Wellness Clinic, the Frances O'Brien Memorial Library, the Vida McKenzie Community Center, and the Upper McKenzie Fire District's fire station in Blue River. Cross noted that an additional \$700 has gone to Valley organizations that are instrumental in supporting the wildfire recovery. "It is amazing how much you can do with one dime at a time," Cross said. She continued, "Thank you for your continuing support. There is just no stopping these guys."



Blue River Bottle Boy Pete Petty in Action Christmas 2020

BottleDrop customers can visit bottledropcenters.com/containersforchange/ to learn more about this program, and how they can use their beverage containers to support excellent nonprofits, foundations, and advocacy organizations in Oregon.

About OBRC

The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) is the industry steward of Oregon’s nationally recognized beverage container redemption system. Headquartered in Clackamas, OR, OBRC is a statewide not-for-profit cooperative, formed by the beverage industry. OBRC helps keep Oregon beautiful by providing outstanding services to partners, distributors, retailers and the public for the recovery, reuse and recycling of beverage containers. Through OBRC’s BottleDrop Redemption Centers and container pickup service for more than 2,500 retail partners, the co-op recycles around 2 billion beverage containers annually, protecting the Oregon we love, supporting the causes we cherish and inspiring innovation beyond our borders – all without a single penny of state funding. To learn more, visit BottleDropCenters.com or OBRC.com.

About the McKenzie Community Development Corporation

The McKenzie Community Development Corporation serves the unincorporated rural communities along the 60-mile McKenzie Highway “main street” from the Springfield Urban Growth Boundary to the river’s headwaters. It is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit that has led or assisted with numerous community development projects since it was first incorporated in 1995 as the Blue River CDC. The McKenzie CDC began wildfire response and recovery work literally the day after Labor Day and have been working tirelessly in the months since to help with the response, recovery, and rebuilding efforts.

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[Here](#) you will find photos of Oregonians processing or bringing Blue Bags filled with redeemable containers to facilities to benefit nonprofits around the state. Photos should be credited to Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative.