



## **Quick Guide: Growlers**

Growlers are refillable/reusable, 64 ounce containers that are capable of holding up to 64 fluid ounces of beer, wine, cider and mead. They resemble a jug and typically have a cork or screw-on cap. A growler can be made from glass, stainless steel and other materials which will keep the alcoholic product fresh longer.

Under District of Columbia law, liquor stores, markets that sell beer and wine, full-service grocery stores, breweries, wineries and wine pub and brew pub permit holders may sell products to customers in growlers in the District of Columbia.

### **RELEVANT LAW**

The following laws and regulations govern the sale and distribution of growlers in the District of Columbia:

- §§ 25-101(24B), 25-110, 25-112, 25-117 and 25-124 of the D.C. Official Code; and
- § 23-705 of the D.C. Municipal Regulations.

### **LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

Beer or wine in growlers may only be sold by the following types of alcoholic beverage licensees:

- Off-premises retailer's class A, which includes liquor stores;
- Off-premises retailer's class B, which includes full-service grocery stores;
- Manufacturer's class A or B, which includes breweries and wineries; and
- On-premises retailer's class C or D that have a brew pub permit or wine pub permit, which allows the establishment to sell growlers from 7 a.m. to midnight.

### **SALES RESTRICTIONS**

Wine in growlers may only be sold if the alcohol content in the wine (including cider and mead) does not contain more than 15% alcohol by volume. Retailers that hold a valid license or permit to sell and distribute beer, wine, cider or mead in growlers may not permit patrons that purchase growlers containing alcohol to consume the beverage at the licensed establishment unless they are a brew pub, wine pub or a brewery or winery with an on-site sales and consumption permit. Growlers are exempt from the District's single sale moratoria.

## **PENALTIES**

Violators of the District's rules regarding the sale and distribution of growlers may be subject to a minimum \$1,000 fine, as well as possible suspension or the revocation of the violator's liquor license pursuant under D.C. Official Code Title 25, section 823; and D.C. Municipal Regulations Title 23, section 800.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information, visit [ABRA.DC.Gov](http://ABRA.DC.Gov) or contact ABRA at 202-442-4423 or [ABRA@DC.Gov](mailto:ABRA@DC.Gov).