

# Battery Recycling Guide



Batteries are used in a variety of devices in the home and in the workplace. They are also manufactured in all shapes and sizes. Some batteries contain hazardous materials such as mercury, silver, lead or cadmium. While there are a great variety of batteries in use today, all at some point in time will no longer be usable

Unwanted batteries should be properly identified and disposed of. Follow these disposal instructions for the type of battery you have.

## Alkaline and Carbon-Zinc (sometimes labeled as "Heavy-duty" or "General purpose")

**Description:** Mainly produced in the following sizes: A, AA, AAA, C, D, N, 9-volt and lantern. Not rechargeable.

**Use:** Flashlights, cameras, portable stereos, radios, compact disc players, smoke detectors, clocks, and other products

**Disposal:** Contact your local Clean Sweep program for recycling options. **OK to throw** in the garbage if they were made after 1993, otherwise, they may contain hazardous materials.

## Rechargeable

**Description:** Lithium ion, nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride, small sealed lead acid. Look for the RBRC seal. Mainly produced in sizes: D, C, AAA, AA, 9-volt and battery packs.

**Use:** Cell phones, cordless phones, laptop computers, personal care products, power tools, video cameras, other cordless products

**Disposal:** Some contain hazardous metals. **Do not** throw in garbage.

For recycling locations near you, call Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation at 1-877-2-RECYCLE (1-877-273-2925).

## Automotive (NOT ACCEPTABLE at Clean Sweep)

**Description:** Lead Acid

**Use:** Cars, motorcycles, boats, golf carts, other products

**Disposal:** Contain hazardous materials. **Do not** throw in the garbage. Businesses selling automotive batteries are required to take used batteries (up to 5 per consumer).

## Button

**Description:** May be alkaline, lithium, mercuric oxide, nickel cadmium, silver oxide or zinc air. Also, these may be combined into stacks to produce cylindrical batteries.

**Use:** Cameras, calculators, handheld games, hearing aids, keyless remotes, personal digital assistants, watches, other products

**Disposal:** Some may contain hazardous metals. **Do not** throw in the garbage. Some Clean Sweep programs accept button batteries at their household hazardous waste collection site.

Information obtain at

<http://www4.uwm.edu/Dept/shwec/publications/cabinet/specialwastes/BatteryGuide2.pdf>

It's easy to be **GREEN.**

Recycle your rechargeable batteries and cell phones.

Visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org) or call 887-2-RECYCLE to find the nearest collection site.