

Batteries come in a wide variety of shapes, styles and sizes. Battery waste management can be confusing when not done very often.

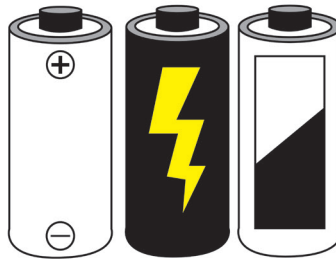
Some batteries have hazardous properties or characteristics, but not all of them. Batteries can be discarded by the consumer through the Universal Waste.

### Types of Batteries & Disposal:

- **Button Cell Batteries** are small and can be found in hearing aids, calculators and watches. They contain mercury and toxic metals so it is illegal to throw them in the trash. To discard them, cover in plastic bags and tape, individually.
- **Rechargeable Batteries** are found in phones, computers and cameras. They contain nickel-cadmium (NiCd), Lithium ion (Li ion), nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH) and small, sealed lead-acid (Pb). Rechargeable batteries can be recycled for free through the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC), a non-profit organization.
- **Alkaline Batteries** are the standard AA, C and D cell batteries found in stores. They are used in flashlights, small electronic devices and remote controls. Alkaline batteries are produced by companies like Duracell™ and Energizer™. They can be discarded into the trash because they are not hazardous.
- **Lead-Acid Batteries** are found in motorcycles, boats and emergency lighting. They can be discarded throughout the Universal Waste system. Cracked or leaking batteries can cause serious health problems if a person is exposed to the metals.

### Labeling and Marking Requirements of Universal Waste Batteries:

- Universal Waste Battery(ies)
- Waste Battery(ies)
- Used Battery(ies)



### How is Hazardous Waste different than Municipal Waste?

- Hazardous Waste is hazardous to human health and environment
- Municipal Waste is solid non-liquid and non-soluble waste that contain complex and sometimes hazardous substances.

### Lead-Acid Batteries Storage:

- Stack neatly and upright.
- Stack no more than five layers high with a non-conducting material (cardboard or thick plastic) between layers to prevent damage.
- Store inside or outside and protect from the weather.
- In a leak-proof container, add a lime and baking soda. Do NOT apply the baking soda or lime directly to the battery case because the acid in the cracked battery may react and splash.

### All Batteries:

- Store batteries in an intact, plastic container or on an impervious surface and cover to protect from weather.
- Keep the seal loose on the storage containers to avoid buildup of explosive hydrogen gases.
- Do NOT store leaking batteries with non-leaking ones; acids from the leaking batteries can corrode the other batteries.
- Store batteries away from sources of sparks or flames.

