

BATTERY RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL

Billions of batteries are sold each year in the United States. Some battery types can be safely thrown into the trash, but other types disperse significant amounts of heavy metals and other toxic substances into the air and water. This guide summarizes which batteries can be thrown away safely and which batteries need to be recycled or sent to a hazardous waste facility. A battery's label or packaging will identify the battery type.

Battery Types to Trash



Alkaline batteries



Lantern batteries



For non-rechargeable lithium batteries, tape the terminals before tossing in the trash.

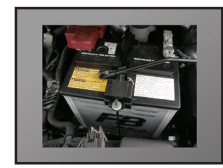
Battery Types to Recycle



Lithium Ion batteries (rechargeable)



Portable power tool batteries



Wet Cell Lead Acid batteries



Small Sealed Lead Acid (SSLA) batteries



Nickel-Cadmium batteries (NiCd)



Battery Pack



Nickel Metal Hydride batteries (NiMH)



Old-style cell phone batteries



Button batteries

Where to Recycle Batteries or Household Hazardous Waste

Many stores that sell batteries, phones or electronics accept used batteries for recycling. To find a retailer near you, visit Call2Recycle.org.

To learn about battery recycling in your area, visit Earth911.org or call 1-800-CLEANUP.

In Florida, you can take batteries to your county household hazardous waste facility. Learn about your county's program and other accepted items at DEP's [Household Hazardous Waste](#) page.