



BATTERY RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL

Know the Difference

Billions of batteries are sold each year in the United States. Some battery types can safely be thrown into the trash, but other types can disperse significant amounts of heavy metals and other toxic substances into the air and water. To limit harmful effects on human health and the environment, it's critical to know the difference. Use this guide to determine which batteries are acceptable for landfill 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 can be disposed of in the trash.



Lantern batteries can be disposed of in the trash.



For lithium batteries, tape the terminals and toss in the trash.

Battery Types to Recycle



Lithium Ion batteries (Li-ion) (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

Many stores that sell batteries, phones or electronic will take back used batteries for recycling. Visit call2recycle.org to find a retailer near you that accepts them. In Florida, you can take batteries to your county Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility. Learn about your county's program and other accepted

household items at www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/hazardous/pages/household.htm.

Visit www.Earth911.org or call 1-800-CLEANUP to learn about battery recycling in your area.