



BATTERY RECYCLING & DISPOSAL

Provided to Broomfield residents by the City and County of Broomfield



Facts about batteries

People are using more and more household batteries.

The average person owns about two button batteries and ten normal (A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, etc.) batteries and throws out about eight household batteries per year. About 3 billion batteries are sold annually in the U.S.

- Nearly 99 million wet-cell lead-acid car batteries are manufactured each year.
- A car battery contains 18 pounds of lead and one pound of sulfuric acid.
- 90% of all lead-acid batteries are recycled.
- Most batteries contain heavy metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, lithium and nickel that could potentially contaminate the environment.
- Since 1995, alkaline batteries are manufactured with “no mercury added.”
- Dry cell batteries contribute about 88% of the total mercury and 50% of the cadmium in the municipal solid waste stream.

Ways to reduce waste or to make better choices:

- Check to see if you have batteries on hand before buying more.
- If suited for the task, buy hand-operated items that function without batteries.
- Look for batteries that have less mercury and heavy metals.

Please recycle your hazardous waste batteries at a local Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event, Household Hazardous Waste Facility, or at a local store with a take-back program.



WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH MY BATTERIES?



Batteries may produce potential problems or hazards that may contribute to metals that may leach from solid waste landfills and contaminate soil, surface water, and groundwater supplies.

Refer to the following table to determine how to properly dispose of your battery:

Battery Type and Common Name	Sizes and Examples	Proper Disposal
Alkaline/Zinc Carbon <i>Alkaline</i>	AAAA, AAA, AA, A, C, D, N, 6V, 9V Flashlights, toys, clocks, & calculators	Place in trash. If over 15 yrs old , bring to a hazardous waste recycling facility, HHW event, or local stores.
Button <i>Mercuric Oxide, Silver Oxide, Lithium, Zinc-Air</i>	Sizes may vary from dime to quarter. Watches, hearing aids, greeting cards, cameras & calculators	Exchange at time of purchase, bring to a HHW facility or event, or a local store with take-back program.
Lithium Usually has “lithium” label on the battery	3V, 6V, button size & other shapes. Cameras, calculators, computer memory backup units, tennis shoes	Exchange at time of purchase, bring to a HHW facility or event, or a local store with take-back program.
Rechargeable Nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), and small sealed lead-acid (Pb)	AAA, AA, C, D, 2V, 6V, 9V, 12V & other sizes and shapes Cell phones, cordless phones, power tools, laptops, digital cameras & wheelchairs	Exchange at time of purchase, bring to a HHW facility or event, or a local store with take-back program.
Car/Motorcycle Lead-Acid (Pb)	6V, 12V Cars, trucks, boats, RVs, scooters & boats	Exchange at time of purchase, bring to a HHW facility or event, or a local store with take-back program.