

# Battery Recycling

Some Batteries Contain  
**Mercury, Cadmium and/or Lead**  
 ~ Help Keep Them Out Of Our Environment ~

Wonder what to do with used batteries?

***Simply follow the Rule of Thumb:***

***Button and rechargeable batteries must be recycled.***

***Most non-rechargeable batteries can be tossed in the trash.***

## Battery Basics

BATTERY TYPE COMMON NAME	PROPER DISPOSAL	EXAMPLES OF USE
<b>VEHICLE</b>		
Lead- Acid Wet Cell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Return to purchase retailer</li> <li>Bring to Household Hazardous Waste Collection</li> </ul>	Cars, boats, snowmobiles, golf carts, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and some wheelchairs
<b>BUTTON</b>		
Alkaline Button	Throw in trash	Radios, toys, calculators, electronic games and watches.
Mercuric Oxide Button	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	Hearing aids
Nickel Cadmium Button	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	Commercial applications – computers dog collars
Silver Oxide Button	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	Hearing Aids, watches, calculators Toys, musical greeting cards / Books.
Lithium Button	Throw in trash	Cameras, calculators, computer memory back-up, pagers, watches hearing aids, digital thermometers And smoke detectors
Zinc-Air Button	Throw in trash	Hearing aids, portable computers and pagers.
<b>RECHARGABLE</b>		
Lead-Acid or Gel Cell (Non-automotive)	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	Video Camera, cell phones, cordless phones, flashlights, power tools, clocks, portable computers, home security
Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd)	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	

Lithium Ion (Li-ion)	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	systems, some wheel chairs, appliances, weed trimmers, camcorders, pagers and toys.
Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH)	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	
Small Sealed Lead (Pb)	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	
Alkaline	Throw in trash	Flashlights, radios, toys, remote controls, electronic games, portable radios and televisions and garage door openers.
<b>NON-RECHARGABLE</b>		
Alkaline	Throw in trash	Flashlights, radios, toys, remote controls, electronic games, portable radios and televisions and garage door openers.
Lithium	Throw in trash – unless larger than 9 volt	Camera, computer memory backup, video equipment, remote controls and garage door openers.
Carbon Zinc (Heavy Duty)	Throw in trash	Clocks garage door openers, pagers, smoke detectors, electric fence controllers, alarms, lighting and lanterns
Silver Oxide	Hazardous – Don't throw in trash – recycle – see below	Cameras and invisible fencing

<b><i>HOT TIP!</i></b>	<b>REDUCE WASTE: Use electricity, not batteries in dual-powered products whenever possible. Buy rechargeable or long lasting batteries. Example: Two AA Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries can replace up to 600 single-use batteries.</b>
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To properly dispose of batteries, which should not be placed in the trash, bring them to a household hazardous waste collection, during the summer months, or place them in a drop box in one of the following locations:

- Faribault County Courthouse, Blue Earth, Minnesota
- Bricelyn City Hall
- Elmore City Hall / Liquor Store
- Kiester City Hall / Liquor Store
- Minnesota Lake City Hall
- Winnebago City Hall

For more information call the Prairieland Solid Waste Coordinator, (507) 776-3232