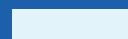




NEVER THROW OUT RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES!



Rechargeable Batteries Can Start Fires in Trash and Recycling

When rechargeable batteries are thrown away they can be crushed or damaged during collection and processing. This can cause them to overheat and ignite, making them a leading cause of fires in garbage trucks, recycling facilities, and landfills.

Rechargeable Battery Fires Are Hard to Put Out

Rechargeable batteries can enter “*thermal runaway*,” a reaction that causes intense heat, fire, or even an explosion. These fires can burn at high temperatures, reignite unexpectedly, and release toxic gases, making them especially difficult and dangerous to control.



Improper Disposal Puts People at Risk

Discarding rechargeable batteries improperly puts sanitation workers, recycling staff, and first responders at risk of injury. Fires can damage equipment, disrupt services, and release harmful substances that impact nearby communities and the environment.

What to do?

For safe disposal, never place rechargeable batteries in household trash or curbside recycling. Instead, store them in a cool, dry place, tape the terminals or keep them in a separate bag to prevent contact, and take them to a designated battery recycling or household hazardous waste collection site. By handling rechargeable batteries properly, you help prevent fires, protect workers, and reduce environmental harm. Visit www.batterynetwork.org to find safe drop off locations!

