

Standard Operating Procedure for Batteries 9/25/13

Batteries must be recycled. EH&S program accepts all types of batteries including but not limited to the following:

Alkaline	Nickel Iron
Carbon Zinc	Nickel Metal Hydride
Lead Acid	Nickel Zinc
Lithium and Lithium Ion	Silver Oxide
Mercury	Sodium Chloride
Nickel Cadmium	

Batteries are managed as Universal Wastes. They are collected in properly labeled containers in designated areas around campus. The label must say one of the following; Universal Waste - Batteries, Waste Batteries, or Used Batteries and have the accumulation start date. Environmental Services (ES) staff periodically checks containers to verify container labeling and ensure guidelines are being followed. When the containers are full or prior to one year from accumulation start date has elapsed ES staff bring the containers back to Chemical Stores Building. The batteries are shipped within one year of accumulation start date for proper management by an approved contractor. In order to ensure compliance with the one year time restriction, ES goes to all collection sites, removes batteries and places a label on the container with a new accumulation start date. The batteries are managed in the following manner:

Alkaline and Carbon Zinc

DOT exempted the taping of terminals for alkaline and carbon zinc batteries. The batteries may be combined and put into properly labeled (with the oldest accumulation start date) DOT containers, and containers placed in an area designated for Universal Waste. The containers are disposed of through the current state hazardous waste contractor, Clean Harbors Environmental.

Lithium Ion, Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, Nickel Zinc, and Nickel Iron

Batteries containing nickel and lithium ion batteries are recycled at no charge using INMETCO /RBRC. The batteries need to be packaged individually with the terminals taped per INMETCO protocol. The boxes, once filled, are shipped to INMETCO /RBRC via UPS. The box cannot weigh more than 40 pounds, but may be further restricted by transporter parameters. UPS paperwork must be properly filled out and container taken to Receiving and Delivery for shipment. The UPS tracking document should be printed out once it has been delivered to INMETCO and kept for files.

Lithium Hydride

Lithium hydride batteries are recycled using state disposal contracts (currently Clean Harbors or Total Reclaim). The batteries must be packaged per DOT regulations. Terminals must be taped using nonconductive electrical tape and placed in a DOT approved container.

Lead Acid

Lead acid batteries are recycled using CarQuest in Colfax, Washington. Facilities Operations Motor Pool collects the lead acid batteries and stores the properly labeled batteries in the tire storage room. CarQuest exchanges new batteries for the spent lead acid batteries. CarQuest sends the spent lead acid batteries to Exide in East Penn, California.

All other types of batteries

All other batteries are recycled using state disposal contracts (currently Clean Harbors or Total Reclaim). The terminals must be taped, including button batteries, put into properly labeled DOT containers, and containers placed in an area designated for Universal Waste.