

California Baptist university, 8432 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504

Battery Disposal Policy

ALL batteries are considered hazardous and **must** be handled and disposed as universal hazardous waste. Any batteries that are changed out as part of routine Maintenance & Operations tasks are to be disposed at Building 16, F&PS. **Batteries removed from department/academic program equipment are to be disposed of by the department.** Improper disposal may result in fines from County of Riverside Department of Environmental Health. F&PS is available for assistance/guidance when disposing batteries.

Department responsibility:

- Isolate all battery terminals to prevent simultaneous conductive surface contact.
- Monitor Universal Waste storage to prevent leakage, contamination or other risk development.
- Monitor dates on storage containers (none are kept in central storage in excess of one year).
- Arrange for removal by a licensed Hazardous Waste contractor.
- Receive proper documentation of disposal & keep a copy for records. Send copy to F&PS for records and reporting purposes.

Battery Identification.

1. **Alkaline batteries:** commonly referred to as disposable or non-rechargeable batteries (i.e. *found in flashlights, some electronic equipment*).
2. **Nickel-cadmium (Ni-cad) batteries:** the most common type of rechargeable battery. Considered hazardous due to containing a regulated amount of cadmium (i.e. *found in some cell phones, equipment*).
3. **Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries:** becoming more popular in consumer products and replacing Ni-Cad batteries. Considered hazardous due to containing a regulated amount of lithium, which may be reactive (i.e. *found in cell phones, equipment, portable power tools*).
4. **Gel Cell (lead-gel) batteries:** sealed lead-acid batteries containing acid in a gelatin form to prevent liquid spills.
5. **Button batteries:** often contain mercury, silver or lithium. Also referred to as mercury/zinc, carbon/zinc, silver oxide, and zinc/air batteries (i.e. *found in watches, calculators, hearing aids, small electronic devices*).
6. **Lead-acid batteries:** contain lead and are considered hazardous waste. Lead-acid battery disposal requires a service report by an approved waste disposal company (i.e. *Found in golf carts, cars, motorcycles*).



Please contact the Environmental Health & Safety Technician (x8847) or Facilities & Planning Services (x4360) with any questions or for assistance