

## Battery Disposal Policy

### Policy.

ALL batteries **must** be handled as Universal Hazardous Waste and disposed as universal waste - **to be disposed at Building 16, F&PS**. Improper disposal or dumping may result in fines from the County of Riverside Department of Environmental Health.

\*\* When bringing batteries to F&PS, please see the department secretary for directions in proper disposal. **DO NOT leave batteries unattended in the shop yard or bays.** \*\*

### F&PS 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 of storage containers (none should be kept in central storage more than one year).
- Arrange for removal by a licensed Hazardous Waste contractor.
- Receive proper documentation of disposal & keep a copy in F&PS records.

### Battery Identification.

1. **Alkaline batteries:** commonly referred to as disposable or non-rechargeable batteries (i.e., The AA, AAA, C, and D Batteries *found in toys, flashlights, some electronic equipment*).
2. **Nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) 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 and some toys*).

3. **Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries:** becoming more popular in consumer products and replacing Ni-Cd batteries. Considered hazardous due to containing a regulated amount lithium, which may be reactive (i.e. *found in newer cellular phones, equipment and portable power tools*).
4. **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, and other small electronic devices*).
5. **Lead-acid batteries:** These batteries contain lead and an acidic electrolyte (i.e., *Found in golf carts, cars, and motorcycles*).
6. **Gel Cell (lead-gel):** Sealed lead-acid batteries containing acid in a gelatin form to help prevent liquid spills.

**Please contact the Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator (951.552.8847) or Facilities & Planning Services (951.343.4360) with any questions or for assistance.**