

USED BATTERIES

Used Batteries are a concentrated source of a few types of heavy metals, most commonly cadmium, lead and mercury. The University collects used batteries as Universal Waste for recycling.



Batteries are used for multiple purposes and have various hazardous components associated with them. Please refer to the next page for additional information.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF USED BATTERIES:

- ❑ **Collect used batteries in a sturdy container such as a box or plastic tub.**
- ❑ **Prior to placing batteries in the container, a label with the words “Universal Waste-Used Batteries” must be affixed to the container with the date clearly marked.**
- ❑ **Labels can be obtained through Environmental Services.**
- ❑ **Please notify Environmental Services when a pickup is needed**

NEVER USE THESE CONTAINERS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF:

- ❑ **Anything other than the items listed above.**

REMEMBER:

- ❑ **Affix a label with the date on the container.**
- ❑ **Leaking batteries are considered “hazardous waste” and should be placed in separate non-leaking, sealed containers. A hazardous waste label must be filled out and attached to the box. Call Environmental Services for pickup (x81450)**

TYPE OF BATTERY	COMMON USES	HAZARDOUS COMPONENT
Non-rechargeable		
Carbon Zinc	Many uses	*See Note 1
Alkaline	Many uses	*See Note 1
Mercuric Oxide	Medical equipment	Mercury
Silver Oxide (Button)	Calculators, watches, cameras	Silver
Zinc-air (Button)	Hearing aids, pagers, cameras	Mercury
Lithium	Computers, cameras	Lithium
Rechargeable		
Small Sealed Lead-Acid	Tools, camcorders Small generators	Lead
Large Sealed Lead-Acid	Large generators/Car Batteries	Lead/Acid
Alkaline	Many uses	**See Note 2
Nickel-Cadmium	Smoke alarms, tools, small generators	Cadmium

*** Since 1993, domestically produced alkaline and carbon zinc batteries contain no added mercury and are essentially mercury-free but will still be managed as universal waste.**

****Since early 1995, rechargeable alkaline batteries contain no added mercury and are essentially mercury-free but will still be managed as universal waste.**