

Household Batteries Recycling Update

Due to regulatory changes and less hazardous battery compositions, battery collection practices have changed in NJ. In the past household batteries were collected for hazardous waste disposal. Now, household battery manufacturers have begun manufacturing alkaline batteries with no added mercury and have reduced the amount of mercury added to other batteries. Alkaline batteries now fall below Federal and State hazardous waste standards and can be disposed of in the regular trash.

Rechargeable batteries should be recycled. They can be found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two way radios, camcorders, and remote control toys. Rechargeable batteries sometimes look like regular alkaline batteries. The label on the battery will indicate if it is rechargeable. If it says "Alkaline", dispose of it in the regular trash.

Rechargeable batteries CAN be recycled at participating retail locations including the following:

Radio Shack, Best Buy, Staples, Target, Office Max, Lowes, Home Depot, Sears, Wal-Mart and Verizon wireless.

To find a retail collection site, use the collection site locator at www.cal12recycle.org or call the consumer helpline at 1-877-2-RECYCLE.