



Environmental Health and Safety Department

Universal Waste Awareness

Used Batteries Management

Batteries generated by businesses, schools, institutions, governments and other non-households are subject to hazardous waste requirements, which allow for certain wastes to be managed under universal waste requirements.

Batteries can contain metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, nickel and silver, which can pose a threat to human health or the environment when improperly managed at the end of their service life.

Batteries can have enough energy to injure or start fires. To prevent fires from lithium-ion batteries, tape battery terminals and/or place batteries in separate plastic bags and never put these batteries in household garbage or recycling bins.

Why tape?

- The terminals, or exposed metal parts, of certain batteries can rub together creating a spark.
- It only takes one to start a fire! Properly taping these batteries ensures safe transit.
- Use clear tape or clear bags only so batteries can be easily identified and sorted for recycling.

Do not do:



Steps to Safe and Responsible Battery Disposal

Place clear tape over the terminals/contact points



Place in original packaging



Place each battery into a clear separate bag



Place the same type of batteries together and then place clear tape over the tops



Place button style batteries on a piece of clear tape small spaces apart from each other and affix another piece of tape over the top



Store in a safe dry place for custodial pick-up

