

Battery Recycling & Alternatives

Guidelines & Suggestions



Rechargeables: A Smart Investment

Smart selection and use of batteries can save money, energy, and the environment. One study revealed that *rechargeable batteries can have up to **32 times less impact on the environment than disposable batteries***. Some rechargeable batteries can be recharged 1000 times or more, saving hundreds of dollars over their lifetime. Their use will keep hundreds of batteries out of the landfill over their lifetime. They also have....

- less than 5% of the non-renewable natural resources consumed
- 1/20 the impact on global climate change (CO₂)
- over ten times less of an impact on water pollution
- up to 30 times less air pollution and 9 TIMES less impact on air acidification (acid rain)
- less packaging waste (one pack of rechargeables = 93 packs of disposables)

Tips for Using Rechargeables

- Note: While rechargeables will work in most circumstances, they are not recommended for all devices and applications. Follow instructions from manufacturers when using any appliance.
- Keep extra batteries on hand to provide the convenience of common household batteries.
- Follow instructions for initial charging times (usually overnight) before using for the first time.
- Unplug chargers when not in use
- Use hand-powered, solar-powered, or plug-in equipment
- Pre-Cycle: Check if you have batteries before buying more. Batteries lose life with age so use the ones you have before buying more. Buy batteries as you need them. Some chargers can test battery strength, helping determine when to recharge, dispose of, or recycle your batteries.
- Extend Battery Life: Follow charging guidelines provided by manufacturers. If you're unsure, it's often better to fully discharge batteries, and let them cool before recharging. Do not mix battery types or new batteries with old ones; one used battery can prevent a device from working even if the other batteries are fresh. Remove batteries and plug the device in if you can. Remove batteries from equipment that will be stored. Store batteries in a cool, dry place. Clean the contact surfaces when installing your batteries so power will not be wasted.

When Not to Use Rechargeable Batteries

Unless otherwise stated in the instructions, do not use rechargeables for:

1. **Smoke detectors**
2. **Carbon monoxide detectors**
3. **Life support**

If you are in doubt as to whether an appliance or a piece of equipment is suitable for rechargeable batteries, always use the recommended battery type. Rechargeable batteries may have a slightly different voltage that can affect the performance or damage equipment.

If recycling batteries are possible, always tape a non-conductive material over the leads to prevent exposure to short circuits. A piece of masking tape is a suitable insulator. If instructions are posted, always follow the recycling center instructions.

Recycle Rechargeable Batteries...

BEST BUY

2020 Grand River, Okemos
5216 W. Saginaw, Delta Twp.

CITY OF LANSING, Waste Reduction
601 E. South St., 2nd Floor, Lansing

COMPLETE BATTERY SOURCE
1754 Central Park Dr., Okemos

DENSTEADT'S HARWARE
3715 S. Cedar, Lansing

FASTENAL
1115 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing
4212 S. Creyts, Lansing
552 N. Cedar St., Mason

GRAINGER

5617 Enterprise Dr., Lansing

HOME DEPOT (service desk)
1749 Newman Rd., Okemos
836 S. Waverly, Lansing

Ingham County Health Department
5303 S. Cedar, Lansing
(by appointment - 887-4312)

KMART (electronics)
5400 S. Cedar, Lansing

LOWE'S (at return desk)
6821 S. Cedar, Lansing
320 Marketplace Blvd., Lansing

OKEMOS HARDWARE

2143 Hamilton Rd., Okemos

RADIOSHACK

1982 W. Grand River, Okemos
401 N. Clippert St., Lansing
6250 S. Cedar, Lansing
5421 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

SEARS (tool dept)
3131 E. Michigan, Lansing

TARGET (at electronics)
500 Edgewood Blvd., Lansing

WALMART (camera dept)
3225 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing

(Also see locations below)

To minimize safety risks, before dropping your rechargeable batteries or cell phones into the collection box, please place each individual rechargeable battery, or cell phone with battery, into a separate plastic bag. If plastic bags are unavailable at the collection location, you can cover the battery terminals with tape (electrical, duct, or masking).

Remember: ONE rechargeable battery or ONE cell phone with battery, per bag.

Recycling Single-Use Batteries...

BATTERIES PLUS

3415 E Saginaw St. Lansing - \$.50/lb.
(517) 203-0100
www.batteriesplus.com

MERIDIAN RECYCLING CENTER

5976 E. Lake Drive, Haslett - \$1/lb.
(517) 703-4498
<http://recycle.meridian.mi.us> for hours

CITY OF EAST LANSING

1800 E. State Rd. (Public Works)

Some battery stores will also recycle single-use/alkaline batteries from their customers. Charges may apply.

Also look for special events in Ingham, Eaton, and/or Clinton County. For links, visit www.midmichiganrecycles.org



Regional Recycling
Coordinating Committee