BATTERY RECYCLING GUIDE

ALKALINE & ZINC CARBON

- Recycling & Disposal Services
- Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics facility
- Pacific Power Batteries*
- Ridwell*

BUTTONS

- Recycling & Disposal Services
- Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics facility
- Pacific Power Batteries*
- Ridwell*

CARS, BOATS, & RVS

- SSC or Nooksack Valley Disposal Service Residential Curbside Pickup
- Recycling & Disposal Services
- Pacific Power Batteries
- Exchange when purchasing new car battery
- Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics facility

If the battery is cracked or leaking, it must be taken to the Disposal of Toxics facility for proper handling

LITHIUM (RECHARGEABLE)

- Recycling & Disposal Services
- Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics Facility
- Pacific Power Batteries*
- Ridwell*

Tape both ends to prevent fires

LITHIUM-ION

- Recycling & Disposal Services
- Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics Facility
- Lowe's or Home Depot
- Ridwell*
- Pacific Power Batteries*

Tape both ends to prevent fires

*Will need to pay a fee

Sustainable Connections TOWARD ZERO WASTE

BATTERY IMBEDDED IN AN ITEM?

Items that contain rechargeable and removable batteries (vapes, toothbrushes, large-battery banks, cell phones, smart devices, radios, etc.) should have those batteries taken out and disposed of properly at Recycling and Disposal Services or Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics (DoT). Only remove embedded batteries if accessible, do not damage the battery in the process.

Electronic waste items that have rechargeable batteries that cannot be removed (laptops, cellphones, tablets, etc.) can be discarded at E-Waste recycling bins located at RDS and 1-PC. If the item is not e-waste, such as a vape or a toy, you can bring it to the DoT facility.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

When lithium-ion batteries are placed in the trash, they can be crushed, damaged, or exposed to heat—causing them to ignite, start fires, release toxic smoke, and create dangerous conditions for workers and facilities. In 2025, there were over 400 fires at waste facilities, resulting in an estimated $22 million in damages.

Whatcom County Health and Community Services hosts an online waste and recycling portal that helps you find the best disposal method for different items. If you're ever unsure how to dispose of something, give it a try!

WasteWise
Online Waste & Recycling Portal

https://www.whatcomcounty.us/wastewise