

## What To Do With Old Batteries

We couldn't get along without them, but once they are dead, batteries often get thrown in the garbage--about 1.5 million pounds per year in King County.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT BATTERIES IN THE GARBAGE OR RECYCLING. Why? Recent studies show that, even at fairly low concentrations, alkaline batteries are toxic to aquatic life. Also, the main metal components of alkaline batteries (manganese and zinc) have been detected in landfill runoff at levels of concern.

Other batteries used at home—button and rechargeable—may contain mercury, a dangerous waste. For these reasons, please help the environment by taking batteries to one of the following places:



Empty plastic jugs are handy containers for collecting old batteries.

Type of Battery	Where to Recycle
<p>Household Alkaline such as AA, AAA, C, D and 9-volt. These batteries can leach manganese and zinc into landfills and also may be toxic to aquatic life.</p> 	<p>Call for hours: PC Recycle PND Corp.            Factoria Transfer Station 13107 NE 20<sup>th</sup> 14320 NE 21<sup>st</sup> #6            13800 SE 32<sup>nd</sup> St. Bellevue, WA Bellevue, WA            Bellevue, WA 425-881-4444 425-562-7252            206-296-4466</p> <p>The City of Bellevue's fall Special Recycling Collection Event usually accepts household batteries for recycling. Check the flier that is sent in the mail prior to the event or call Bellevue Utilities at 425-452-6932.</p> <p>For more recycling options, see King County's website:  <a href="http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/wdidw/">http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/wdidw/</a></p>
<p>Button batteries are found in cameras, watches, and hearing aids. These batteries may contain mercury.</p> 	<p>Recycle at Factoria Transfer Station, PC Recycle, PND Corp., or check King County's website (see above).</p>
<p>Rechargeable batteries are used in power tools, cellular and cordless phones, digital cameras, laptop computers, toothbrushes, and remote control toys. These batteries may contain mercury.</p> 	<p>Recycle at Factoria Transfer Station, PC Recycle, PND Corp., or check King County's website (see above).</p> <p>For more locations in Bellevue, visit <a href="http://www.call2recycle.org">www.call2recycle.org</a></p>
<p>Motor vehicle (lead acid) batteries are considered a dangerous waste.</p> 	<p>Recycle at Factoria Transfer Station or check into the City of Bellevue's Special Recycling Collection Event (see above).</p>

If you haven't tried rechargeable batteries in a long time, you might want to give them another shot. Rechargeable nickel metal hydride (NiMH) batteries don't have to be charged before the first use and do not lose their charge quickly when not in use. You can find them for sale in most stores. Charging these batteries is as easy as charging a cell phone. To save energy, just remember to unplug the charger when not in use.