



Disposal of Used or Spent Lead-acid Batteries for Commercial and Institutional Generators

This guidance outlines requirements under the Hazardous Waste Regulation for commercial and institutional generators of waste lead-acid batteries.

Does this guidance apply to me?

This guidance applies to you if you generate waste lead-acid batteries as part of your normal business. Once batteries are no longer usable and you remove them from a vehicle, you are a *generator* of waste lead-acid batteries, and you are responsible for managing them.

This guidance does not apply to generators that also operate a return collection facility (RCF) (e.g., vehicle dismantlers).

When is a used lead-acid battery considered hazardous waste?

A used or spent lead-acid battery *is* hazardous waste as soon as you no longer have any use for it in its current condition, and once removed from a vehicle.

When is a waste lead-acid battery *not* considered hazardous waste?

A waste lead-acid battery is not hazardous waste *after* it has been refurbished by a manufacturer or supplier and is suitable for reuse.

What are my responsibilities for managing waste batteries that are hazardous waste?

Waste lead-acid batteries must be managed in compliance with the HWR. If in any 30-day period you generate more than 2,000 kg of waste batteries, or store this quantity at any time, you must register with the Ministry as a generator using the link below:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=CCFC390820E6414F87866E3EAE6CAD10>

You must also ensure that batteries shipped from your facility follow the transportation requirements under the headings below.

Where can I drop off waste lead-acid batteries for recycling?

The following web site will provide a list of RCFs in your area:
Recycling Council of British Columbia (RCBC): <https://rcbc.ca/>

What are the rules about transporting waste batteries?

All waste lead-acid batteries are “dangerous goods” and are subject to the federal Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations (TDGR), including requirements for shipping documentation, labelling, and placarding of vehicles. Waste lead-acid batteries are also subject to the B.C. HWR.

All parties involved in managing, generating, transporting and receiving these batteries must meet all applicable requirements under the HWR. The requirements include:

- Manifests and [licensed carriers](#) must be used for shipping 1,000 kg or more of batteries (about 45 typical vehicle batteries).
- If a generator of waste lead-acid batteries transports the batteries themselves, a licensed carrier is only required for shipping 2,000 kg or more of batteries.
- Receivers (consignees) must be authorized consignees¹ or must be a RCF or consolidation site.

Who can receive a shipment of waste batteries?

Waste batteries may only be sent to an authorized consignee, RCF or consolidation site facility as defined in the HWR. All parties involved in managing, generating, transporting and receiving these batteries must meet all applicable requirements under the HWR.

What if I have questions?

- Visit the Ministry’s Extended Producer Responsibility website for lead-acid batteries at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=A73831079C95415294444A09F377ECE5>
- Contact the Ministry at hazwaste@victoria1.gov.bc.ca.

¹ An authorized consignee has a registered site number and an operational plan approved by a director or has written authorization from a director to accept hazardous waste.