



Disposal of Used or Spent Lead-acid Batteries for Consumers

Used or spent lead-acid batteries, such as vehicle batteries, are classified as waste under B.C.'s *Environmental Management Act* and are considered hazardous waste under the Hazardous Waste Regulation (HWR). They should never be put in your household garbage, but disposed of in an environmentally friendly way by bringing them to a designated collection facility.

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

The Ministry considers lead-acid batteries to be hazardous waste as soon as the original user no longer has any use for them.

How should I dispose of waste lead-acid batteries?

You have several choices:

- Get in touch with the retailer or wholesaler that sold you the batteries and find out if they will take them from you. Participating retailers generally accept waste batteries for free.
- Take them to a return collection facility registered with the Ministry. Contact your local municipality or regional district for the location nearest to you.
- Look for other local recycling options and locations by visiting the following websites:
 - The Recycling Council of B.C.: rbc.bc.ca/recyclepedia
 - The Stewardship Agencies of B.C.: bcrecycles.ca
 - The Canadian Battery Association: <https://canadianbatteryassociation.ca/>

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