



Disposal of Used or Spent Lead-acid Batteries for Other Receivers of Batteries

Does this guidance apply to me?

This guidance document applies to you if you receive used or spent lead-acid batteries from your customers, clients, independent battery collectors, or any other source, and you are *not* a return collection facility (RCF), temporary collection event, a consolidation site, or a *producer* under the Recycling Regulation.

To qualify as a producer, you must either be a member in good standing of an approved stewardship plan under Part 2 of the Recycling Regulation or meet all the requirements under Part 3 of the Recycling Regulation.

Businesses covered by this guidance document generally include battery recyclers, scrapyards, interim or intermediate storage facilities, processors for breaking or dismantling batteries, or smelters for recovery of lead or other materials.

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

A waste lead-acid battery is hazardous waste as soon as the generator no longer has any use for in its current condition, regardless of whether it is being returned directly to producer.

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

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

What are my responsibilities under the HWR?

As a *receiver* of hazardous waste under the HWR, you must comply with all applicable provisions of the HWR for an authorized consignee¹, including those for storage.

Storage

Establishing a storage area at your facility will likely require the preparation of designated plans² and may, in some situations, include posting financial security at the

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.

discretion of a director. Guidance for the preparation of plans and preparing an application package can be found at the link below:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization/apply>

Registration as a registered site

You must also register as a hazardous waste storage, treatment, recycling or disposal facility and get a registered site number (RS#) if at any time you store more than 2,000 kg of waste lead-acid batteries (about 90 typical vehicle batteries) that were generated at a different site or process waste lead-acid batteries in a quantity exceeding 2,000 kg/day. The registration process is documented at the link below:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization/process#routine>

Registration as a generator

If you intend to ship batteries you had received from your RS facility to another off-site management facility, you are also a hazardous waste generator. You must [register](#) the batteries with the Ministry as hazardous waste if in any 30-day period you generate/accumulate more than 2,000 kg of waste batteries, or store this quantity at any time.

What are the rules for transportation of waste batteries?

All waste lead-acid batteries are “dangerous goods” and are subject to the federal Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations, including requirements for shipping documentation, labelling, and placarding of vehicles. Waste lead-acid batteries are also regulated under 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 must be authorized consignees or must be a RCF or consolidation site.

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.

² Designated plans include plans and specifications, an operational plan, a contingency plan and a closure plan.