



We need the community's help! Rechargeable batteries containing metals such as lithium and nickel, can spark and explode when damaged. Fires in garbage trucks and processing facilities are on the rise. Help protect our employees, garbage collectors, property, and community.

Rechargeable batteries are found in many common household items including:

- Power Tools
- Toys
- Cellphones
- Laptops
- Watches
- Remote Controls
- Gaming Devices
- Electric Toothbrushes
- E-cigarettes and Vape Devices

Here's what to do:

- **Alkaline Batteries (single-use: AA, AAA, C, D):** Collect in a storage bag. Once full, time for disposal. Although not a fire risk, LCSWMA will properly dispose of alkaline batteries.
- **Rechargeable Batteries:** Don't store end-of-life batteries. Dispose of immediately.

FREE, Proper Disposal:

LANCASTER COUNTY RESIDENTS:

- Bring batteries and cellphones to LCSWMA's QUICK, CONVENIENT, DRIVE-THRU Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA, 17603 – Mon. – Fri. 7:00 am to 4:00 pm; Sat. 7:00 to 11:00 am
- Ask your trash collector if they take filled battery bags. If so, place on curb **BESIDE** trash. Bags are brought to LCSWMA. Battery bags are available at the East Cocalico Township lobby area free to residents.
- To find battery drop-off locations near you, visit www.Call2Recycle.org/locator
- Participating retail collections points include: Home Depot, Lowes & Staples

Specialty Batteries:

E-bike Batteries: Contact retailer or manufacturer for safe battery disposal options. Need assistance? Call LCSWMA at 717-397-9968

Electric Vehicle Batteries: Contact local automotive store or dealership for safe battery disposal options

Remember to keep all batteries out of the trash and recycling! For more information, visit www.SafeBatteryDisposal.com



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA CONTACT:
Karen Gross, Communications Manager
717-553-5863 kgross@lcswma.org

Fires in Garbage Trucks and Waste Processing Facilities are on the Rise *LCSWMA pleads with public to properly dispose of rechargeable batteries*

LANCASTER (Lancaster County, PA) – Rechargeable batteries containing metals such as lithium and nickel, can spark and explode when damaged. To combat the growing risk of battery fires, the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) announces the launch of a public education campaign to encourage proper disposal of rechargeable batteries.

“The waste industry is facing a crisis,” Robert Zorbaugh, Chief Executive Officer of LCSWMA said. “The improper disposal of rechargeable batteries is putting trash haulers; waste disposal and recycling facilities; employees; and the community at risk. Countless fires have started in the back of trash trucks and at our waste disposal facilities. We want to do everything possible to keep the waste management system operating safely in our community,” he added.

Rechargeable batteries are in many common household items including power tools, toys, cellphones, laptops, watches, vape devices, electric toothbrushes and more. If the rechargeable battery becomes damaged, it can cause a chemical reaction that creates a spark or explosion. Rechargeable batteries in the waste stream are prone to damage due to the impact from equipment and machinery during the waste management process.

“We want the community to know that there are many free and convenient drop-off locations for end-of-life rechargeable batteries,” Karen Gross, Communications Manager, said. “In Lancaster County, residents can use LCSWMA’s drive-through Household Hazardous Waste Facility to drop-off both alkaline and rechargeable batteries. If our facility isn’t a convenient option or if residents live outside Lancaster County, they can visit www.SafeBatteryDisposal.com for other collection points. Our message is clear: DO NOT store end-of-life rechargeable batteries and NEVER place them in the trash or recycling bins,” Gross added.

For more information, visit www.SafeBatteryDisposal.com. The webpage, available in English and Spanish, includes information regarding specialty batteries such as e-bike and electric vehicle batteries as well as battery handling tips.

LCSWMA is a regional government authority, recognized nationally for its leadership in the solid waste industry and its innovative Integrated System that includes: (1) a Transfer Station permitted to handle up to 2,200 tons per day; (2) a 1,200 tons per day mass burn Waste-to-Energy Facility in Lancaster and 800 tons per day mass burn Waste-to-Energy Facility in Harrisburg for the combustion of waste and production of electricity; (3) the Frey Farm Landfill, permitted for disposal of 3,000 tons of waste per day; (4) a county-wide recycling program; and (5) drive-through Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Visit www.lcswma.org to learn more.