

April 19, 2011

Subject: Battery Care and Disposal

TIPS FOR PROPER BATTERY CARE AND USE

- Use the correct size and type of battery specified by the manufacturer of your device.
- Keep battery contact surfaces and battery compartment contacts clean by rubbing them with a clean pencil eraser or a rough cloth each time you replace batteries.
- Remove batteries from a device when it is not expected to be in use for several months.
- Remove batteries from equipment while it is being powered by household (AC) current.
- Make sure that you insert batteries into your device properly, with the + (plus) and – (minus) terminals aligned correctly. CAUTION: Some equipment using more than three batteries may appear to work properly even if one battery is inserted incorrectly.
- Store batteries in a dry place at normal room temperature. Most Duracell batteries will provide dependable long life even after five years of storage in these conditions. Do not refrigerate Duracell batteries, this will not make them last longer.
- Extreme temperatures reduce battery performance. Avoid putting battery-powered devices in very warm places.
- Do not attempt to recharge a battery unless the battery specifically is marked “rechargeable.”

DISPOSING OF GENERAL PURPOSE & ALKALINE BATTERIES

Alkaline batteries can be safely disposed of with normal household waste. Never dispose of batteries in fire because they could explode.

Due to concerns about mercury in the municipal solid waste stream, we have voluntarily eliminated all of the added mercury from our alkaline batteries since 1993, while maintaining the performance you demand. Our alkaline batteries are composed primarily of common metals—steel, zinc, and manganese—and do not pose a health or environmental risk during normal use or disposal.

It is important not to dispose of large amounts of alkaline batteries in a group. Used batteries are often not completely "dead." Grouping used batteries together can bring these "live" batteries into contact with one another, creating safety risks.

Proven cost-effective and environmentally safe recycling processes are not yet universally available for alkaline batteries. Some communities offer recycling or collection of alkaline batteries—contact your local government for disposal practices in your area.

RECYCLING BATTERIES WITH OTHER CHEMISTRIES

Due to the chemicals in them, you should recycle rechargeable, lithium, lithium ion, and zinc air batteries. In addition to “traditional” rechargeable batteries like AAs or AAAs, rechargeable batteries like the ones found in everyday household items such as cameras, cell phones, laptops, and power tools should also be recycled. Look for the battery recycling seals on rechargeable batteries.

As part of our commitment to the preservation of the environment, we help fund the nonprofit Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) and its Call2Recycle® program. To find a rechargeable battery recycling location near you, visit www.call2recycle.org.

The Home Depot and Best Buy often collect batteries and electronics for recycling.

PACKAGING DISPOSAL

We encourage you to recycle packaging as well.

As part of our commitment to preserve the environment, we use only nontoxic inks in our packaging and the card portion of our package is made from 55% recycled material. The plastic portion is made with 30% recycled plastic. The battery “can ” is made with 40% recycled steel to improve environmental impact while still maintaining strength.

Linda Moquet

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