



Safe Lithium Battery Disposal

Lithium-ion batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space. When crushed, pierced, or become defective, they may ignite and catch fire. This is especially problematic for garbage trucks, landfills, and transfer stations.

Types of Products that Use Rechargeable Lithium-ion Batteries

- Laptops, tablets and e-readers
- Cell phones & MP3 players
- Drones & remote control cars
- Smartwatches
- Portable power banks
- Portable DVD players
- Battery powered tools
- Handheld gaming devices
- Headphones & earbuds
- E-bikes, hoverboards
- Electric scooters
- Toothbrushes
- Lawn mowers, vacuums
- Digital cameras
- Vape pens and more....

How to Safely Dispose of Lithium Batteries

- **Do not place lithium-ion and LiFePO4 batteries in the garbage, or general recycling bin.**
- Free local disposal for lower wattage lithium-ion batteries is available for **households**. Each battery must be less than 300 watts and weigh less than 11 pounds. To calculate multiply amp hours by voltage. (Ah X V) = Watts
- Higher wattage Li-ion batteries are becoming more commonly used in items such as lawn mowers, snow blowers and large power banks. Lowes accepts certain high energy brands.
- Before placing in a drop off battery recycling container, place each lithium-ion battery in a clear plastic Ziploc bag. Duct tape or non-conductive electrical tape may also be used to cover the positive side.
- While **LiFePO4** batteries are a different type of lithium battery, they require special disposal considerations. LiFePO4 batteries are most often used in golf carts, trolling motors, RVs, medical equipment, UPS backup power, portable power stations, and in solar energy power storage systems.
- Although **single-use** lithium batteries are not as dangerous as lithium-ion, recycling protects the environment and our natural resources. Single-use batteries are often used in cameras, remote controls, and smoke detectors.
- Because most local opportunities are not for business or agency use, each entity must arrange for its own disposal. Visit Ecology's web page to learn how to manage batteries as universal waste. <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/guidance-technical-assistance/dangerous-waste-guidance/common-dangerous-waste/universal-waste>
- Become knowledgeable about the type of batteries each of your devices use. For information on specific recycling options, please see the information provided on the other side of this flyer.

How to Safely Dispose of a Damaged, Defective, or Recalled Lithium-ion Battery

- A battery or device that is swollen, corroded, leaking, or showing burn marks may easily catch on fire and must be handled carefully.
- Place the battery or device in non-flammable material such as sand or kitty litter as soon as possible. Keep in a cool dry place. Check the Consumer Product Safety commission or manufacturer web site to check for a recall and follow the directions.
- Local disposal for small damaged, defective, or recalled lithium-ion batteries is available at the Ephrata Landfill and household hazardous waste collection events.
- Lithium-ion batteries between 300-800 watts may be disposed of at household hazardous waste collection events if generated by a household.

Tips on managing Lithium-ion batteries to reduce damage and fire risk.

Buy Smart—Always buy the battery specified for the device. Buy batteries from reputable manufacturers and vendors. Avoid the low price, low-quality option.

Charge Smart—Keep lithium-ion batteries at room temperature. Charge Li-ion batteries at temperatures between 32°F (0°C) and 105°F (40°C) and avoid excessive charging. Do not keep charging the device or battery after it is fully charged. Only charge one device or battery at a time and do not leave unattended. Always plug the charger or device directly into the wall.

Store Smart—Do not place lithium-ion batteries in direct sunlight or keep them in hot vehicles. Avoid crushing, bending, or dropping a device or charger. Regularly check your devices and batteries for broken or cracked cases which would indicate a swollen battery. Stop using the device if you notice any problems. Keep batteries away from children.

Lithium Battery Recycling Options

Recycling Site	Location	300 Watts or Less	Greater than 300 Watts	E-bike Batteries	300 Watts or Less - Damaged, Swollen-Recalled-	300 Watts or More - Damaged, Swollen, Recalled	Tablets, iPad Laptops, E-readers, Portable DVD Players	Cell Phones	Ear Buds	Wireless Headphones	Smart Watch	E-Cigarettes (vape pens) with built in battery (Max 2)	LiFePO4 Batteries	Single Use Lithium Batteries	Notes:
Grant County Sites															
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events	Special events in the spring and fall	◆		◆					◆	◆	◆			◆	Household only. For more information visit https://www.grantcountywa.gov/266/Household-Hazardous-Waste or call 509-754-6082 ext. 3508
Ephrata Landfill	Ephrata	◆		◆			◆								Household only
Home Depot	Moses Lake and cities in other counties	◆													Household only
Lowes	Moses Lake and most Lowe Locations	◆	◆				◆								Accepts certain high energy battery brands. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/hebattery/participating-high-energy-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
Staples	Moses Lake	◆				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆	Accepts undamaged Li-ion batteries only. Accepts single use batteries. Visit https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling
Goodwill	Moses Lake & cities in other counties					◆									E-cycle collection sites accept specific undamaged electronics only
Consolidated Disposal Service (CDSI)	Ephrata and Moses Lake					◆									E-cycle collection sites accept specific undamaged electronics only
Locations Outside Grant County															
Arlberg Sports	Wenatchee			◆											Participating brands only. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/e-bikes/participating-e-bike-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
Trek Bicycle Kennewick	Kennewick			◆											Participating brands only. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/e-bikes/participating-e-bike-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
REI	Multiple Locations			◆											Participating brands only. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/e-bikes/participating-e-bike-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
Wheel Sport South	Spokane			◆											Participating brands only. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/e-bikes/participating-e-bike-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
Wheel Sport Bikes Valley	Spokane Valley			◆											Participating brands only. Visit https://www.call2recycle.org/e-bikes/participating-e-bike-brands/ or call 1-877-723-1297
Batteries Plus	Kennewick, Yakima, Spokane	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆								◆	Small batteries are free if terminals are taped or battery is bagged. Fee for all other lithium-ion battery recycling. Also accepts LiFePO4.
Call2Recycle	Mail Order		◆	◆	◆										Fee-Call 1-877-723-1297 or visit https://www.call2recycle.org/store/

How to calculate watt hours: (ah) X Volts (V) = Watt Hours

For more information contact Grant County Solid Waste at 509-754-6082 ext. 3508

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