

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

The Importance of Recycling Your Rechargeable Batteries

The demand for portable electronic devices is rising nearly exponentially, and in order to power these devices, more and more batteries are needed. However, the available elements necessary to create new batteries are limited, making **recycling your rechargeable batteries critical to avoid future battery shortages.**



Today, rechargeable batteries power everything from your cell phones and computer tablets to our cordless tools and electric toothbrushes. Lithium-ion (Li-ion) rechargeable batteries are replacing their Nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) predecessors due to their lighter weight and longer-lasting charge. **These rechargeable batteries contain valuable metals like cobalt, nickel, and lithium and should be recycled at the end of their life cycle.**

Fortunately, there are multiple options available for recycling rechargeable batteries. **Many cellular phone stores, large retail stores, and hardware stores provide drop-off containers** specifically for rechargeable battery recycling. Alternatively, you can visit Call2Recycle.org to find a nearby drop-off location dedicated to battery recycling. For additional local battery recycling options, **search the Zero Waste Wizard tool at gainesvillefl.gov/WasteWizard.**

By actively participating in battery recycling, we can contribute to sustainable energy storage and help alleviate the strain on valuable resources. Let's make recycling rechargeable batteries a habit, promoting a greener future for all.

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