



## FAQ

- Can different battery types be mixed in a single device
  - No. Never mix battery types—such as include alkaline, heavy duty, and rechargeable—in a single device. Battery leakage may occur.
- Can old and new batteries be mixed in a single device
  - No. Never mix old and new batteries in a single device—battery leakage may occur. Replace all batteries in a device at the same time.
- Where should batteries be stored
  - Do NOT put loose batteries in your pocket. Batteries should be stored in a cool, dry location. Avoid temperature extremes. Keep batteries in original package until you are ready to use them.
- How does the cold affect batteries
  - Batteries can't deliver much power when they are cold. You may find that the flashlight kept in your car in the middle of winter casts a faint beam. Let the batteries warm up to normal temperature, and try them again before you decide to replace the batteries.
- Can batteries be stored in devices for long periods of time
  - No. Batteries should be removed from any device that will be stored for long periods of time.
- How should I dispose of my alkaline batteries
  - Alkaline batteries can be safely disposed of with normal household waste, since the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act passed in 1996 that phased out the use of mercury in alkaline batteries. That means they aren't nearly so toxic when disposed in landfills. Never dispose of batteries in fire, as this could cause an explosion.
- Are batteries hazardous waste
  - No. Household batteries (RAYOVAC® FUSION™, HIGH ENERGY™, Zinc Carbon batteries and rechargeable batteries such as RAYOVAC®'s Recharge and Recharge Plus (NiMH), and fully drained lithium primary batteries) are not hazardous waste. They are qualified as non-hazardous after having undergone government required testing.

Certain others, such as lead acid rechargeables and Nickel-Cadmium (NiCd) batteries, are required by regulation to be recycled. If you throw them away then they are a hazardous waste. Recycling logos on these products contain the information you need for finding your recycling outlets.

### **Additional Information**

All Alkaline, Rechargeable Alkaline, Rechargeable Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH), Zinc Carbon, and drained lithium primary batteries made by RAYOVAC® are not a USEPA hazardous waste. Zinc Air and Silver Oxide in typical consumer quantities are not USEPA hazardous waste (see below for information pertaining to industrial large quantity generators). Our Material Safety Data

Sheets note that non-hazardous wastes are suitable for ordinary disposal methods, providing that there is not some other applicable state or local regulation which directs otherwise.

From time to time some states, counties, or local governments enact regulations naming a specific compound or element hazardous. In effect, this makes many of the consumer products that contain that material potentially covered by the rules. In other cases, "batteries" is used generically when the rule is targeted toward automotive lead acid batteries. In these cases, it takes time to correct the regulatory language. In other cases, the household batteries we produce may be undesirable for the type of waste management chosen by a city or municipality such as when composting or waste-to-energy incineration is used. Those rules do not make the household battery waste hazardous; they just require different management, often making that management more difficult or costly.

### **Part II :**

There are some batteries, such as Nickel-Cadmium (NiCd), which are Universal Waste (the term "universal waste" is potentially applicable to waste batteries only if they are considered "hazardous"). Collection of Nickel-Cadmium batteries is required by law. They are not classified as EPA hazardous waste as long as their destination is recycling. Other types of commonly used batteries, such as silver oxide batteries, are not regulated for the general consumer but may be regulated for the industrial user. Industrial users who may generate over 100 Kilograms per month of certain regulated hazardous wastes or over 1000 kilograms of any type of hazardous waste may need to treat their waste silver oxide batteries as hazardous waste. Silver oxide batteries contain precious metals that may be recycled.

- Can large volumes of batteries be recycled?
  - You can find a list of recycling firms that may be able to process waste batteries at the National Electrical Manufacturers Association web site. These firms generally charge fees and may require pre-sorting of various batteries. Mixtures of waste batteries will require special packaging and transportation. For details contact the recycling firm of your choice.

Neither NEMA or RAYOVAC® guarantee the list includes all potential recycling firms. The list does not constitute a recommendation regarding listed firms.

- How and where can I recycle my batteries?
  - No general household battery recycling system exists in the USA. Because Lead Acid and Nickel Cadmium (NiCd) batteries are required to be recycled to keep them from hazardous waste consideration, special systems have been set up to promote their collection. Both of these products have recycling logos affixed to the battery and a telephone number or address identified on the label to assist you.

Other battery types, while not requiring recycling, can also be recycled. These include Rechargeable Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) batteries and Lithium Ion batteries.

For your convenience, RAYOVAC® has been a proud supporter of the

Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). The RBRC runs a free recycling program for consumers, allowing you to return your used rechargeable batteries at retail locations across the country. For specific information, please visit the RBRC website.

Also note that Silver Oxide batteries, most often used as watch batteries, can usually be returned at the retail location it was purchased from.

- Does RAYOVAC® take used batteries back
  - We do not take them back. However, RAYOVAC® does fund the RBRC, a take back program for rechargeable batteries.