

NO ALKALINE

AND OTHER SINGLE-USE BATTERY RECYCLING



Why doesn't Good News Project accept single-use batteries for recycling?!

Believe it or not, when it comes to alkaline and other single-use batteries (carbon-zinc, etc.), recycling is NOT the greenest choice! This is because alkaline battery recycling is resource-inefficient. Here's why:

Recycling has two main objectives:

1. **Recovering the good stuff EFFICIENTLY** – salvaging resources that can be reused instead of less efficiently harvesting those same materials all over again via things like mining.
2. **Preventing the bad stuff from polluting the environment** – keeping toxins and other hazardous waste contamination out of landfills, soils, air, and waterways.

Recycling single-use batteries accomplishes ***NEITHER*** of those goals! They're not hazardous waste, and recycling them costs ***MORE*** resources than it recovers!

1. **It's bad at recovering the good stuff** – Recycling them recovers a small amount of steel, manganese, and zinc, but that recovery process requires putting in MORE net resources than it reclaims – that's the opposite of green!
 2. **Per the WI DNR, single-use batteries DO NOT contain hazardous materials** – they are about as benign as anything else that's accepted at landfills, and the DNR itself actually RECOMMENDS that they be put in the garbage! It's the lesser of two evils.
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BUT, you definitely SHOULD recycle ALL rechargeables!

This includes types like: Lithium Ion (Li+), Nickel Cadmium (NiCd), Lead Acid (Pb), and more.

Rechargeable batteries contain hazardous materials that are a public health hazard if allowed to contaminate soil, water, or air – these should ALWAYS be recycled. Good News Project is here to help you with that!