

Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County News

April 5, 2022

Contact: Willie Puz, Public Affairs and Recycling, 561-640-8914 (o); 561-379-2405 (c)

SWA's April Household Hazardous Waste Tip: Rechargeable Batteries Can Cause Fires if Put in Recycling Bins or Trash

Throwing rechargeable batteries into a recycling bin or the garbage can put property and people's lives at risk. In fact, fires traced to lithium-ion batteries have been reported at recycling facilities nationwide, and fires have started in the garbage trucks that go to your home.

Rechargeable batteries power our cell phones, laptops, cordless power tools and even hover boards. These batteries have components that are flammable. If the battery is shorted or damaged, it heats up and produces oxygen, which facilitates combustion.

Fortunately, Palm Beach County residents can dispose of rechargeable (non-alkaline) batteries for free at any of the SWA's seven [Home Chemical and Recycling Centers](#).

Regular alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, C, D and 9 volt) can be placed in your garbage. But any other type of battery (rechargeable, nickel-cadmium, automotive, lithium-ion, cell phone, lead-acid) should be dropped at one of the SWA's [Home Chemical and Recycling Centers](#).

The SWA's locations include (from north county to south county):

- **Jupiter**
North County Transfer Station
14185 N. Military Trail (SWA Road) in Jupiter
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- **West Palm Beach**
Home Chemical and Recycling Center
6161 N. Jog Road in West Palm Beach
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- **Belle Glade**
Glades Regional Transfer Station
1701 State Road 15 in Belle Glade
Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- **Royal Palm Beach**
West Central Transfer Station
9743 Weisman Way in Royal Palm Beach
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- **Lantana**
Central County Transfer Station
1810 Lantana Road in Lantana
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- **Delray Beach – West
Southwest County Transfer Station**
13400 S. State Road 7 in Delray Beach
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Delray Beach – East
South County Transfer Station**
1901 SW 4th Ave. in Delray Beach
Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

In addition to these locations, many major retailers will recycle batteries for free, and have drop-off containers placed near the front of their stores.

Commercial quantities of batteries may require special disposal. Call 561-687-1100 for details on recycling batteries from your business.

In the last fiscal year, Palm Beach County residents recycled:

- 80,120 pounds of lead acid batteries
- 20,777 pounds of mixed batteries
- 15,702 pounds of lithium-ion batteries

at the SWA's [Home Chemical and Recycling Centers](#). Each year, the SWA's Home Chemical and Recycling Centers either recycles or safely disposes of more than 4.9M pounds of household hazardous wastes.

Learn more about how to properly dispose of batteries with the following resources:

- Watch the SWA's [lithium-ion battery commercial](#)
- Check out the SWA's [video about the dangers of putting combustible items in your trash](#)
- Review the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's [Homeowner's Guide To Battery Recycling And Disposal](#)

Remember, *pollution prevention starts at home*. A full list of household hazardous wastes can be found at [SWA.org/HCRC](#) or call 561-697-2700 or 866-SWA-INFO (toll-free) to learn more about the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's Home Chemical and Recycling Centers.

###

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

- Process more than 100,000 tons of [recyclables](#) each year
- Combust approximately 1.8 million tons of trash each year to generate electricity at [renewable energy facilities](#)
- Produce enough electricity to power approximately 74,000 homes, about the number of homes in Boca Raton and Palm Beach Gardens

- Recycle more than 150,000 tons of [wastewater treatment residuals](#) (sludge from flushes) into environmentally-friendly fertilizer
- Safely dispose of more than 4.9 million pounds of [home hazards](#) a year
- Collect water off of the roofs of [Renewable Energy Facility 2](#) and store it in a 2 million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process

Connect with the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County - SWA.org

Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most communications to or from the Solid Waste Authority are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, your e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.