



ACCGOV.COM/BATTERIES

BATTERIES DO NOT BELONG IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[Your Email]

[Your Phone Number]

[Date]

To [Your Favorite Battery Powered Item Manufacturer],

In recognition of National Battery Day on February 18, I urge you to take a crucial step in protecting the environment, public safety, and the dedicated workers in the solid waste and recycling industries by helping educate your customers on the proper disposal of batteries from your products. Improper disposal of batteries—especially lithium-ion batteries—poses serious risks, including fires, toxic chemical leaks, and environmental contamination.

Every year, solid waste facilities across the country experience fires caused by batteries thrown into household trash or recycling bins. When crushed or punctured, lithium-ion batteries can ignite, endangering waste collection workers and causing extensive damage to equipment and facilities. Even smaller, non-lithium batteries contain materials that can be harmful if not disposed of properly.

This issue is particularly important to me because I have personally seen the dangers that improperly disposed batteries can cause. Fires at waste facilities put workers' lives at risk and can spread to surrounding communities. Additionally, as someone concerned about our environment, I have encountered countless improperly discarded batteries in public spaces, contributing to pollution and harming local ecosystems. We cannot afford to ignore these risks when solutions exist.

To help prevent these risks, I implore you to take proactive steps to educate your customers by:

- **Adding clear disposal messaging** on product packaging, manuals, and websites, instructing consumers **NOT** to throw battery-containing items in household trash or regular recycling bins.
- **Working with distributors and retailers** to ensure they provide battery recycling information at the point of sale.
- **Utilizing social media and digital platforms** to spread awareness about safe battery disposal and the importance of taking them to designated recycling drop-off locations.
- **Encouraging consumers to find local battery recycling centers** through resources like Call2Recycle (www.call2recycle.org) and municipal waste programs.

Additionally, we strongly encourage manufacturers to take responsibility for the full lifecycle of their battery-powered products by offering **take-back or recycling programs**. By allowing customers to return used batteries or battery-powered products directly to you for safe recycling, you can ensure that hazardous materials are handled properly and valuable resources are recovered. A manufacturer-led recycling initiative not only demonstrates environmental leadership but also builds consumer trust and loyalty.

Your participation in this initiative will make a meaningful impact by reducing fires, protecting workers, and ensuring that battery materials are safely recovered and reused. We appreciate your leadership in promoting responsible disposal and helping to create a safer, more sustainable future.

Thank you for your commitment to battery safety and environmental responsibility.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]



HELP US GET HOME SAFE

Presented to you through a partnership of the ACC Solid Waste Department and ACC Fire Department

