

Options for Recycling for Single-Use Batteries

Single-use batteries, also known as alkaline batteries, that are currently being sold, are not considered hazardous and can be disposed of in your regular trash. Prior to 1996, these types of batteries contained mercury and other heavy metals that are considered dangerous.



The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services provides guidance on best practices for the disposal of all types of batteries:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2020-01/bmp-household-haz-waste.pdf>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also provides guidance on the disposal or recycling of single-use, rechargeable and automobile batteries. The EPA also states that alkaline batteries can be disposed in the household trash or can be recycled.

<https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2020-01/bmp-household-haz-waste.pdf>

While we are unable to locate a recycling center that takes single-use batteries and electronics, there are several on-line recycling services that will provide battery recycling. The “Big Green Box” and “The Little Green Box” are services provided by Retriev Technologies, Inc. that will provide a receptacle for “Household Batteries”. <https://biggreenbox.com/> This service requires a single point of collection and once the box is full, shipping the box to the company for processing.

