



# SWA Battery Collection Policy

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) strongly encourages everyone to recycle batteries. There are several options available to accomplish this. For individuals, the SWA has seven Home Chemical & Recycling Centers (HCRCs) strategically located throughout the county. Two of these facilities (West Palm Beach and Delray West) are staffed and the others are self-serve. Individuals should drop off their batteries at these locations. Many retail stores also have collection containers available, usually in the entrance or lobby, for battery drop-off. The most convenient drop-off location for an individual may be found by visiting [swa.org/lib](http://swa.org/lib) and using the locator tool on the page. An online search can also reveal a number of fee-based mail-in options.

Businesses, agencies, communities or other entities that wish to collect batteries are encouraged to do so by using third-party collection and mail-back services, such as [Call2Recycle](#), [Battery Recyclers of America](#) or [Earth911](#). These services provide, for a fee, pre-paid mail-back collection containers along with the required packing supplies and instructions to ensure safety. While there is a cost, it is affordable for those wanting to offer value to their constituents.

Collecting batteries poses special risks if not done correctly. For liability reasons, the SWA does not provide battery collection containers or collection services to any entity or group. Palm Beach County residents and individuals are encouraged to use the SWA's HCRC network or any other method they choose.

Regardless of the method chosen, when recycling batteries, the most important action is to tape the terminals (ends), preferably with a clear tape, to prevent accidental electrical discharge. Other non-conductive tapes may be used but are not preferred. The entire battery should not be taped so as not to obscure any markings that indicate the battery type.