

Hello everyone,

October seemed to come up quick this year! We're seeing Fall coming on fast and we're gearing up for the bend-of-year push, and taking stock of where things are heading in the auto recycling world. I hope you're ready, because there's a lot stirring in our space right now.

### **Industry Spotlight: EV Batteries**

- **Battery Recycling & Reuse Innovations**

- UW-Madison researchers have revealed new electrochemical techniques to recycle lithium more affordably from spent EV batteries. ([Click for Source Article](#))
- Redwood Materials is taking old EV batteries that still have usable capacity (often around 50%) and putting them to work in stationary energy storage—microgrids, grid support, etc. It's a promising move toward extracting more value before final recycling. ([Source](#))
- The global market for EV battery recycling is projected to expand significantly over the next few years, with growth in reuse, remanufacturing, and innovations in recovery of critical minerals. ([Source 1](#)) ([Source 2](#))

- **Domestic Capacity for Battery Material Recovery**

- As of 2023, the U.S. had enough domestic facilities to reclaim around **35,500 tons of battery materials** from lithium-ion batteries. Plus, there are plans underway for further capacity increases. ([Source](#)) That means opportunities for salvage yards to participate in or partner with collection, processing, or transportation roles in those supply chains.

### **Pro Tip of the Month**

- If you haven't recently, consider **auditing your yard's EV-battery handling practices**:
  - Are safety protocols up to date (storage, labeling, handling)?
  - Have clear arrangements for transporting used EV batteries.
  - Know if/how your yard will accept or process "second-life" battery packs or modules.

### **Why This Matters**

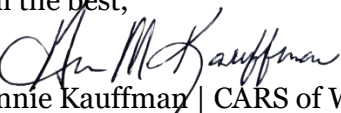
- The rise of EVs and battery reuse means salvage yards are more and more central to the circular economy. Being prepared means tapping into opportunities.
- New technologies and process standards are changing what "end of life" means. Reuse + remanufacture + recycling = more value.
- With global and domestic demand rising for battery materials, yards that can reliably deliver safe, usable used parts or spent components will find themselves in stronger positions.

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Looking for more info on EVs? It's not too late to sign up for this year's ARA Conference in Birmingham, AL. It's coming up October, and they have a session on EVs and many other topics!

Here's to a productive October! Stay safe, stay curious, and if you attend the ARA convention—or have any other good news—drop me a line. I'd love to hear what's working well in the yards out there and feature you/your yard on the CARS Facebook page!

All the best,



Annie Kauffman | CARS of WI Ex. Secretary