



## Safe Handling of Batteries Webinar Recap

Did you miss our recent webinar on safe handling practices for batteries? Here's a quick recap with resources for more information.

As we approach the holiday season, properly recycling or disposal of lithium-ion batteries and other electronics is critical to help keep recycling and workers safe.

Batteries are serious fire hazards, both in large scale waste facilities, and at home. It is very important to properly store batteries and avoid accumulation. Even a small spark between batteries could ignite material around it, starting a fire.

There are new technologies and collection services that can help small businesses, organizations, and solid waste collections keep batteries out of the waste and recycling stream and in the properly sorted systems.

Recycling facilities have higher operating costs due to the increased insurance premiums and deductibles from fire risk due to the growing supply of electronics and batteries in the waste stream. This raises prices for consumers as the costs of processing are passed along to haulers and then residents/businesses.

Michael Timpane with RRS shared his perspective of the impact of lithium-ion batteries management in US. Joe Bittner with Call2Recycle provided best management practices for safe handling and recycling of batteries and overview of programs for safe collection of batteries. Andrew Holdbrooks with eWaste ePlanet discussed e-scrap certifications and how these certification programs help assure safe practices and handling of batteries and electronics.

## Resources Available

Interested in seeing any of the presentations from the webinar or looking for additional resources? Presentations are available on our website.

[View Battery Resources!](#)

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## Industry News

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### Coca-Cola Introduces 100% Recycled PET Bottles in Atlanta

Coca-Cola Trademark brands (Coke, Diet Coke, Coke Zero Sugar and Coca-Cola Flavors) in 20-oz. bottles made from 100% recycled plastic\* are rolling out this fall across Atlanta, Chicago and the Pacific Northwest. These packages first launched in 2021 and are now available in 11 major U.S. markets including Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Houston, and Dallas. To build awareness and encourage action, all 100% recycled plastic bottles\* include “Recycle Me Again” messaging.

The expanded rollout of 100% recycled plastic bottles\* supports The Coca-Cola Company’s World Without Waste goal to use at least 50% recycled material in bottles and cans by 2030. With 20-oz. bottles made from 100% recycled plastic\* expanding its availability, Coca-Cola expects to save over 37 million pounds of new plastic on an annual basis—the equivalent of approximately 890 million bottles—in 2024 alone. The shift is also estimated to reduce over 39,000 tons of CO2 equivalent annually in the United States—the equivalent of taking around 8,400 cars off the road for one year. Demand for recycled plastic (PET) exceeds supply, so the first step to scaling use of 100% recycled plastic bottle material across the Coca-Cola portfolio is building a sustainable pipeline of high-quality material. That’s why the company is focused on partnering with communities to boost PET recycling and collection—in addition to collaborating with recycling partners to secure recycled plastic—to help ensure material for its packaging is used again and again.

For more information on the “Toss In, Take Out” takeovers and the expansion of 20-oz. Coca-Cola Trademark bottles made from 100% recycled plastic (excludes cap and label), visit [coca-cola.com](https://coca-cola.com).

### National Survey of Over 1,000 U.S. Residents Provides Insight on Recycling Decisions

The Foodservice Packaging Institute released a summary of findings from its

Resident Messaging Survey, sharing information related to resident assumptions on recyclability, awareness of what items can be recycled, and top sources of recycling instructions. The survey focused on recycling messaging related to items such as plastic cups and containers, paper cups

and pizza boxes. Survey respondents indicated that the type of material plays a greater role than the form, such as a cup or box, in the decision to recycle an item. [Read more.](#)

## Insights into Effective Resident Education



## PepsiCo to Eliminate Plastic Rings on Beverages across US and Canada

PepsiCo announced it will roll out paperboard wraps and paperboard clips for use on its multipacks in place of traditional plastic rings later this year. The more sustainable packaging will include brands like Pepsi, Pepsi Zero, MTN DEW, Starry, Gatorade, amongst others.



**LITHIUM BATTERIES  
DO NOT BELONG IN THE  
HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING BIN.  
PLEASE RECYCLE PROPERLY.**

## NWRA Reminds Everyone to Properly Handle Lithium-ion Batteries

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) issued the following statement from NWRA Interim President and CEO Jim Riley on America Recycles Day: "As we celebrate America Recycles Day and approach the holiday season, it is important for everyone to know how to properly handle the recycling or disposal of lithium-ion batteries." "It is never safe to dispose of lithium-ion batteries along with your household waste or curbside



recycling. These batteries can be easily damaged, leading to rapid combustion and causing devastating fires that result in the tragic loss of life and destruction of property. "Lithium-ion batteries are common in mobile devices, cordless tools, electric toothbrushes and other wireless devices. We appreciate that consumers want to recycle, but we urge them to check with their localities on how to recycle or dispose of lithium-ion batteries in a safe manner where they live."



## Christmas Light Recycling

Twinkle, twinkle no more? Don't place your old lights in the recycling bin. Check locally for recycling options like [Fulton Metals Recycling](#) in Atlanta. Also check with major retailers (like Walmart) to see if they have collection bins for recycling or mail lights to [HolidayLEDS](#). Check their website for information on the types of lights accepted. Some retailers offer a discount code to buy new lights. It's a win-win! *Please note that Christmas Light Source no*





## International Compost Awareness Week Poster Revealed

The winning poster (pictured left) was designed by Ny Rindra Arison Malalaniaina from Antananarivo, Madagascar. Hundreds of people entered the contest from 76 different countries. [Learn more.](#)

Did you know that sometimes compost is used to help with erosion control? Compost has been successfully used on sites where conventional erosion control methods have not performed well. In Europe, fine compost is mixed with water and sprayed onto slopes to control erosion.



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