



**BATTERIES GO
BOOM!**

DON'T TRASH IT. CHARM IT!



AC
ATHENS
CLARKE
COUNTY

INTRODUCTION

Fire incidents at waste and recycling facilities across the nation continue to rise, largely due to the increased popularity of lithium-ion batteries.

OVER THE LAST 2 YEARS
8 of the 10 fires
at ACC Solid Waste
were from batteries.



THE PROBLEM

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Found in everyday objects

Usually placed in trash or recycling bins

When damaged or overcharged, they can explode

CAMPAIGN GOALS

- 1 Keep Us Safe
- 2 Keep Equipment Safe
- 3 Keep You Safe



DON'T TRASH IT. CHaRM IT!

FREE, SAFE DISPOSAL

Free battery recycling:

- CHaRM- 1005 College Ave
- ACC Solid Waste- 725 Hancock Industrial Way
- ACC Landfill- 5700 Lexington Rd
- Cleveland Rd Fire Station- 275 Cleveland Rd
- Danielsville Rd Fire Station- 1650 Danielsville Rd
- Jefferson Rd Fire Station- 3955 Jefferson Rd

Other Drop-off locations-
(Check Websites for fees):

- UGA Battery Recycling
- Lowe's
- Batteries Plus
- Best Buy



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COLLECTION OPPORTUNITIES

CHaRM- Waive battery fee for ACC Residents

February 18th is National Battery Day

Battery Buckets

- All ACCSW facilities
- Fire Stations with Recycling Drop Sites
- Local Schools
- Vape Shops


**RECYCLE
VAPES HERE**



Thank you for safely disposing your vape.



BATTERY DISPOSAL

DON'T PUT BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING!

FREE, SAFE DISPOSAL
Starting Feb 1st



- CHaRM (1005 College Ave)
- ACC Solid Waste- 725 Hancock Industrial Way
- ACC Landfill- 5700 Lexington Rd

24/7 Drop-Off Locations

- Fire Station #2: 275 Cleveland Rd
- Fire Station #8: 3955 Jefferson Rd
- Fire Station #9: 1650 Danielsville Rd



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SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

BATTERY DISPOSAL

DON'T PUT BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING!

PROPER DISPOSAL STEPS



1. **Tape the Terminals:** Cover ends of lithium batteries with non-conductive tape.
2. **Store Safely:** Place batteries in a non-metal container
3. **Choose a Drop-Off Location:**



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BATTERY DISPOSAL

DON'T PUT BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING!

HOW BATTERIES CATCH FIRE:



Overheating

- Excessive heat makes batteries unstable and can cause fires.
- EX: Leaving batteries in hot places or overcharging them.



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BATTERY DISPOSAL

DON'T PUT BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING!

HOW BATTERIES CATCH FIRE:



Being Punctured:

- Puncturing exposes internal chemicals to air, causing reactions that may ignite.
- EX: Sharp objects piercing batteries in the trash



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BATTERY DISPOSAL

DON'T PUT BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING!

HOW BATTERIES CATCH FIRE:



Being Crushed:

- Crushing damages internal parts, causing short circuits or releasing reactive chemicals.
- EX: Batteries compressed in garbage trucks



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BATTERY DISPOSAL

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HOW BATTERIES CATCH FIRE:



Short Circuit:

- Direct contact between positive and negative terminals leads to uncontrolled electricity flow, generating heat.
- EX: Terminals touching metal



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HELP US GET HOME SAFE



SOLID WASTE
DEPARTMENT



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

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

In honor of Women's History Month we present
WOMEN IN WASTE



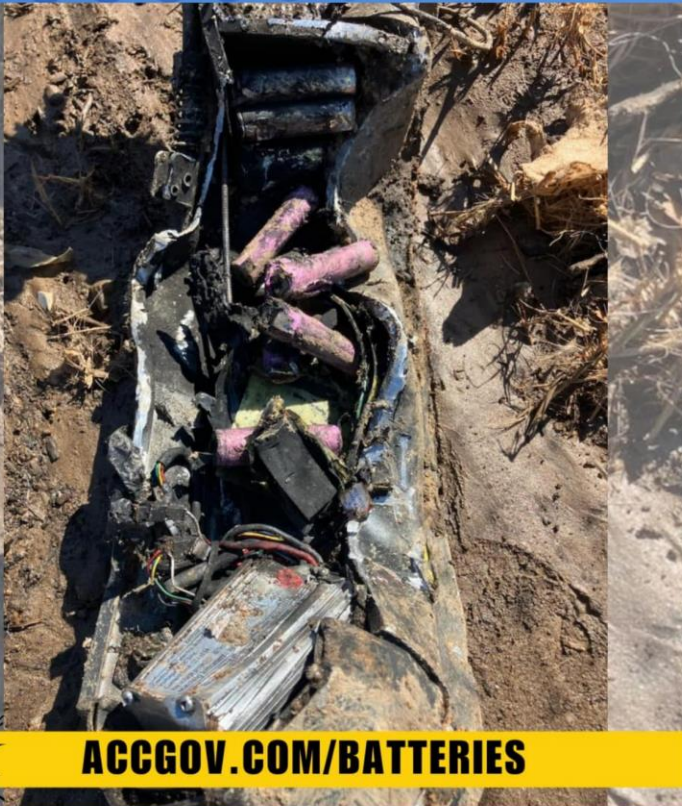
SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

PSA: BATTERIES DO NOT BELONG IN THE TRASH. EVER.

Wanna know what happens when you throw an electric scooter in the garbage? Our landfill crew just found out the hard way. First, they smelled smoke. Then, when they started digging, BOOM!!! it exploded like a firework, launching flames several feet into the air and setting off more batteries. Because, of course, one explosion wasn't enough excitement for the day.

Lucky for everyone, no one got hurt. But let's be real, this could have been really bad. Fortunate for us, Wes Anglin and Lafayette Royal were on site to smother the fire with dirt before it spread to the trucks and trash piles and cause some serious damage. And let's just say they definitely don't get paid enough for that kind of adrenaline rush. And we thought fireworks were just for the 4th of July, not the 4th of February.

So what do you do with an electric scooter? You can recycle them for FREE at CHaRM and our fire stations on Jefferson Rd, Danielsville Rd, and Cleveland Rd. Do the right thing, unless you want to give our landfill crew a heart attack. Nevermind, just don't and take them to CHaRM. [#BatteriesGoBoom](#) [#TakeItToChARM](#)



[ACCGOV.COM/BATTERIES](https://accgov.com/batteries)

BEFORE
A BATTERY FIRE



[ACCGOV.COM/BATTERIES](https://accgov.com/batteries)

AFTER
A BATTERY FIRE



WES ANGLIN
"IT SHAVED YEARS OFF MY LIFE"

BEFORE
A BATTERY FIRE



[ACCGOV.COM/BATTERIES](https://accgov.com/batteries)

AFTER
A BATTERY FIRE



LAFAYETTE ROYAL
"SCARED ME OUT OF MY BRITCHES!"

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



**BATTERIES ARE THE #1 CAUSE OF FIRES IN
ACC SOLID WASTE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

Batteries in the trash or recycling can cause dangerous fires, putting both solid waste workers and firefighters at risk! Every year, battery-related fires damage trucks, facilities, and even homes. Do your part—bring ALL batteries to CHaRM for FREE recycling starting Feb 1! Let's work together to keep our community safe.
[#ProtectOurHeroes](#) [#BatteryRecycling](#) [#FireSafety](#)
[#CHaRM](#) [#BatteriesGoBoom](#)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Staff tabled at
First Responders Night for
the Athens Rocklobsters
hockey game.



TRUCK WRAP



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October 5-11, 2025

CHARGE
into Fire Safety™

**Lithium-Ion Batteries
in Your Home**

fpw.org



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™

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**FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK™**



Courtesy of Call2Recycle

**Don't trash batteries—find a safe
drop-off spot to recycle @call2recycle.org**

OTHER CAMPAIGNS

**AVOID
THE SPARK™**
Be battery safety smart.



Is
Hazardous Matt
hiding in
your package?





Policy Statement on Battery EPR
January 2025

Short Version:

Lithium-ion batteries require special handling for proper recycling and disposal. They should never be placed in waste or curbside recycling bins as they can cause fires, endangering people and waste and recycling infrastructure. The best solution is to use take-back programs designed for safe collection and recycling. The National Waste & Recycling Association and the Solid Waste Association of North America are committed to promoting awareness and supporting policy initiatives that ensure proper battery disposal to protect workers, communities and the environment.

Long Version:

Batteries, particularly but not exclusively lithium-ion batteries, present significant challenges for recycling and disposal due to the potential for hazardous reactions. To ensure safety and sustainability, batteries must be handled with specialized care through designated take-back programs, which facilitate proper collection, transport and recycling and a safe end-of-life outcome.

Batteries should never be placed in household waste or curbside recycling bins. Improper disposal can result in fires, posing serious risks to consumers, waste and recycling workers, and critical infrastructure. These incidents jeopardize public safety, disrupt recycling processes and lead to costly damages.

The National Waste & Recycling Association and the Solid Waste Association of North America support legislation that promotes the safe disposal of all batteries with a particular emphasis on small to medium size lithium-ion batteries. Our position includes requirements for effective take-back programs with documented end-of-life certainty and enhanced public awareness. We are committed to working with stakeholders to advance economically sound and responsible recycling solutions, and to protect our communities, workers and the environment.

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**POLICY STATEMENT
ON BATTERY EPR**

EPA TO UPDATE AND EXPAND RCRA

- **Lower threshold**
- **Enhanced storage requirements**
- **Industry standards**
- **Response to fire risk**

SOLUTION FOR RECYCLING



1. Pour a layer of CellBlockEX[®] into the bottom of a drum



- **Saves time**
- **Safer**
- **Reduces storage footprint**



***DENISE
YOUNG***

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