

Alkaline Battery Disposal



What does the law state?

The January 2006 New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Solid Waste Management and Sludge Management State Plan Update – March 2007 states: domestically manufactured alkaline and carbon zinc non-rechargeable batteries made after circa 1994 eliminated mercury content to the point that they should not be considered RCRA (Resource Conservation Recovery Act), hazardous and therefore are not included in the materials mandated to be source separated and recycled category.

What *exactly* does the law mean?

Since 1994, most types of alkaline and carbon zinc non-rechargeable batteries contain no added mercury. They only contain trace amounts of mercury that are not hazardous and they may be thrown out in the regular trash. These batteries may be marked “no added mercury” or have a green tree logo.

Descriptions:

Alkaline Batteries are dry cell household batteries. There are five types of alkaline batteries: AAA, AA, C, D, and 9 volt. These batteries are used in flashlights, radios, toys, calculators, remote controls and other household items.

Carbon Zinc Non-Rechargeable Batteries are dry cell batteries that come in the same sizes as alkaline batteries. They are commonly used in low drain consumer products such as clocks, calculators, and garage door openers.

ALL OTHER TYPES OF BATTERIES ARE MANDATED RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

