



Think Globally. Act Locally!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Re: Battery Recycling

Batteries are an integral part of modern life, however, 90% of used batteries in Australia end up in landfill; leaking toxic and corrosive chemicals (including zinc; manganese; mercury, lead; nickel, cadmium; lithium; iron; sulphides; sulphates; chlorides and acids) into the environment, as well as preventing recovery and reuse of a variety of precious materials. In addition, batteries thrown in the general rubbish can cause fires.

It is therefore important to dispose of used and unwanted batteries correctly. There are a number of options.

Officeworks (www.officeworks.com.au/information/about-us/peopleandplanet/recycling) offers a comprehensive recycling program which includes not only general batteries (such as AA, AAA and button) but, also, mobile phones, used pens and markers, and IT equipment.

For more detailed information on battery recycling options, consult the Battery Stewardship Council's B-Cycle website: www.bcycle.com.au, which has information for individuals and industry and runs a B-Cycle accreditation program which encourages the purchase of more environmentally-sustainable batteries.

The following supermarket chains have battery recycling programs operating in conjunction with EcoBatt (and others):

- ALDI - www.aldi.com.au/sustainability/good-planet/battery-recycling
- Coles - www.coles.com.au/about/sustainability/our-commitment/battery-recycling
- IGA - www.iga.com.au/community/recycling
- Woolworths - www.woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/sustainability/woolworths-to-make-battery-recycling-easier-with-national-network-of-1000-collection-bins?icmpid=sm-tffp-sustainability-home

EcoBatt is a battery recycling company which operates battery recycling programs at the various supermarket chains and their website is a useful source of information: www.ecobatt.net/?gad_source=1&qclid=EAlaIqobChMIsZ3Fovf_gwMV8NdMAh0kqAZyEAA_YASAAEqKfmPD_BwE

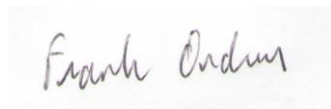
For Lead-Acid batteries (found in cars, trucks and so on), they can be dropped-off at Battery World: www.batteryworld.com.au/recycling

HOPE Inc. has a useful guide to waste minimisation and resource conservation that is applicable to all aspects of modern living, and which can be accessed from: www.hopeaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Minimise_Waste_and_Conserve_Resources_brochure_6_Mar_2023_.pdf .

Planet Ark has a useful resource to assist with finding information and recycling options: www.planetark.org/programs/recyclingnearyou .

With the rise of electric vehicles and battery storage systems, the need to offer recycling and recovery options is paramount as these become an increasing component of the transition to the next generation of energy and transportation infrastructure (potentially, 30 000 tonnes of used electrical vehicle batteries entering the waste stream by 2030) The following websites provide some additional guidance on these matters:

- www.drive.com.au/news/electric-car-battery-recycling-australia-environmental-harm
- www.electricvehiclehub.com.au/information-centre/can-you-recycle-your-electric-car-battery
- www.climate.mit.edu/ask-mit/how-well-can-electric-vehicle-batteries-be-recycled
- www.solarmarket.com.au/blog/battery-recycling-can-solar-batteries-be-recycled

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Ondrus". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph. 07 4639 2135
Written by Jason Dingley, Media Officer (Vic)