

LEAD - ACID BATTERIES

PRODUCT: • Automobile, Truck, Motorcycle, Snowmobile, ATV batteries

USES:
 Lead -acid batteries are either starting batteries or deep - cycle batteries. The batteries which start cars are starting batteries. They deliver a short burst of high power in order to start the engine. Deep - cycle batteries are found on boats and campers. They power trolling motors, winches, and lights. The power level is lower and delivered at a steady pace for a longer period of time. Lead -acid batteries are rechargeable. They are 98% recyclable and should be recycled in order to keep lead and other toxic metals out of the environment.

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:
 Lead -acid batteries pose certain hazards if they are handled improperly. They contain both lead and sulfuric acid which are toxic constituents and that can contaminate soil, air and water. Direct contact with sulfuric acid can burn the skin and eyes. Exposure to lead in the environment can pose a serious health hazard to children. Lead is also extremely toxic to aquatic life. Lead -acid batteries must be properly handled and stored in order to reduce risks. Landfill disposal is not an option. Lead-acid batteries must be recycled. If they are not recycled, they are subject to hazardous waste regulations and must be disposed by a licensed special waste handler.

DO'S	DON'Ts
<u>Do</u> recycle or bring back to point - of - purchase.	<u>Don't</u> dispose of lead-acid batteries with regular trash.
<u>Do</u> store batteries in an upright, secure place and check for leaks weekly. Make sure area is covered from rain.	<u>Don't</u> store lead-acid batteries for more than 6 months. Never store them on top of each other.
<u>Do</u> treat spilled acid and broken lead-acid batteries as hazardous waste. Contact a permitted facility for proper disposal.	<u>Don't</u> drain batteries or crack the covers. Be sure to wear gloves or protective clothing when handling used lead-acid batteries.

RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES:
 Used lead-acid batteries should be recycled. Retailers who sell the batteries will take back old ones for recycling. Metal recyclers will also accept them. Refer to the Appendix.

DISPOSAL: Do not dispose of used lead - acid batteries in the landfill or incinerate. This is hazardous to the environment and to the health of others.

For more information CONTACT:

Environment Canada: [Http://www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)