

# Safe battery disposal

The consumer battery industry has been at the forefront of environmental protection and all most all responsible manufacturers produce products without heavy metals like cadmium and mercury. In the past, zinc batteries contained cadmium and mercury. These elements

were included to increase the battery life, but are harmful to both humans and the



environment.

Eveready has been producing cadmium- and mercury-free products for a considerable period of time. These products do not pose an environmental risk and can be disposed of in normal municipal waste.

The key ingredients of a consumer battery are zinc and manganese. When disposed of in conventional waste, these elements convert themselves to various salts of zinc and manganese, which act as micro nutrients for the soil.

No country in the world has as yet successfully implemented a structure to recycle consumer batteries, largely due to a lack of any conclusive negative impacts as well as the logistics involved with this process.

Eveready believes in creating and

maintaining a sustainable environment.

Eveready has been ISO 14001 certified for the past eight years, and has completed various projects with regards to waste reduction, electricity reduction, elimination of harmful chemicals from batteries and reduction in water usage. These positive impacts on the environment resulted in the company being awarded the SJM Flex Environmental award two years in a row (2006 and 2007). Eveready was also recently awarded the Eastern Cape Clean Industry award for General Manufacturing from the Department of Economic Development & Environmental Affairs (DEDEA), in conjunction with the Institute of Waste Management for Southern Africa (IWMSA).

Please refer to below table for further details regarding disposal of batteries:

Battery type	Sizes available	Applications	Disposal
Alkaline	AAA, AA, C, D, 9V	High drain applications, including digital cameras, heart monitors, calculators, remote control toys, alarm clocks, smoke alarms, iPods and MP3 players.	Dispose of in household trash
Zinc chloride	AAA, AA, C, D, 9V	Low to medium drain applications, such as remote controls, flashlights, radios and clocks.	Dispose of in household trash

Source: Eveready

## Did you know?

Woolworths offers a number of recycling sites at Woolworths stores, Woolworths Foodstops and Engen convenience stores to allow customers to drop off their glass, metal cans, plastic, paper and cardboard waste, light bulbs and batteries.

“Woolworths is committed to reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill from our own operations, by using recycled content in our products and packaging, and making it easier for our customers to recycle,” says Justin Smith, head of Sustainability at Woolworths.

“In efforts to reduce our impact on the environment, we have installed recycling facilities at selected Engen service stations in the Western Cape, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. Customers can dispose of used compact fluorescent light bulbs and batteries safely and responsibly.”

