Battery recycling south africa



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As a nation, we are doing incredibly well when it comes to battery recycling in South Africa. In fact, according to First National Battery, up to 90% of all lead-acid batteries are recycled in our country. That statistic is pretty impressive considering that less than 50% of all of our glass and all our plastics, are recycled!

Below is your guide to the different types of batteries, what they contain, and how to effectively recycle them.

The different types of batteries

Aside from the three categories of batteries – household, industrial and vehicle, there are two main types of batteries, namely rechargeable and single-use, non-rechargeable batteries.

Rechargeable batteries include

Non-rechargeable batteries include

Lithium batteries, in particular, are extremely flammable, so extra care needs to be taken when both using and recycling them.

The importance of recycling batteries

Just by looking at their names, it becomes evident that batteries are comprised of various hazardous ingredients which could prove incredibly damaging to the environment when dumped. If we do not recycle them, the hazardous materials such as lead or mercury are sure to wind up in our rivers, soil, and air. However, the good news is that most batteries are 100% recoverable for better disposal.

How to recycle batteries

You have two options when it comes to battery recycling in South Africa. You can either sign up to make use of a special battery collection service, or you can drop the batteries off at the various battery recycling centres or recycling points scattered across the country.

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Web: https://www.kary.com.pl/contact-us/ Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

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WhatsApp: 8613816583346

