



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

100 North Fifth Ave. P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-8647
www.a2gov.org

PRESS RELEASE

NEW U.S. DOT REQUIREMENTS FOR BATTERY RECYCLING: SEAL RECHARGEABLES WITH CLEAR TAPE

ANN ARBOR, Mich., October 1, 2009 — To prepare batteries for recycling to meet the recently-revised U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) standards, consumers must tape the positive end of *rechargeable* batteries with clear tape and store them in a plastic bag. Rechargeable batteries will be marked: Nickel-Cadmium (NiCad), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH); Lithium-ion (Li-ion), Lithium Polymer, or silver-oxide (button) batteries. Button batteries may be lined up on a strip of clear tape and secured with another strip of clear tape along the top. Alkaline batteries do not have to be taped. This regulation was designed to help prevent major incidents, such as fires, during battery shipment.

In Ann Arbor residents must store clear-taped rechargeable batteries and untaped alkaline batteries in the same clear plastic bag and place the bag *outside* of the recycling bins for curbside pickup. The Drop-Off Station at 2950 E. Ellsworth accepts taped rechargeables and untaped alkaline batteries. Feeling confused? When in doubt, seal the positive ends of all batteries with clear tape before recycling.

The following stores take only rechargeable batteries for recycling at no charge: Batteries Plus, Best Buy, Home Depot, Lowe's, Office Depot, RadioShack, Sears, Staples, and other free locations posted at www.rbrc.org.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and was named the No. 1 Healthiest Hometown in the U.S. by AARP The Magazine in 2008. Other notable recognitions include: No. 27 of the top 100 U.S. cities to live in by CNN/Money Magazine in 2008, as well as the fourth smartest city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine. The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

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