How Battery Recycling Works

See how batteries of different chemistries are recycled at the recyclant plant.

**Lead Acid Battery Recycling**

The battery is broken apart into a hammermill. The lead-acid battery pieces are then washed in a vat where the lead and iron never end up to the bottom and the plastic floats.

**Lithium Batteries**

The casings are usually made using high-density foam and are then compacted into blocks. The metal material is recycled, and the non-metals and rare earth metals are recovered.

**Lithium-Ion Batteries**

Plastics are separated, and metals are then recovered via a high-temperature metal-recovery process. The lithium is then recovered via a lithium-carbonate process. The graphite is used as a replacement material.

**Mercury Batteries**

The batteries are ground in a machine, and the mercury is recovered through a controlled combustion process. The mercury is then condensed as a liquid and the batteries are cross-contaminated with other hazardous materials.

**Alkaline and Carbon Zinc Batteries**

These batteries are recovered in a commercial, and the battery components are separated into two products.

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**Battery Recycling Information**

Recycling information from: http://www.nationalrecycling.com/battery-recycling-facts.html