

U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii – Environmental Compliance Guide

BATTERIES – (Lead Acid) (Vehicles, UPS Batteries)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Most vehicles batteries and Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) battery you use as backup for your computer are lead-acid batteries. “Wet” lead-acid batteries contain cells made of lead and lead dioxide and an acidic electrolyte solution of sulfuric acid. The electrolyte is a strong corrosive agent.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

The Lead-acid batteries may also vent explosive hydrogen gas. Batteries should be stored in a cool dry place on a plastic secondary containment pallet.

WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

Most standard vehicle-type lead-acid batteries and UPS batteries are recycled and are managed as a UNIVERSAL WASTE. Broken batteries may be HAZARDOUS WASTE. Check with the DPW Environmental Division Compliance Inspections Program or the TAP for the proper management of broken batteries.

HANDLING AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

Step 1: Before disposing of any battery, make every attempt to recharge and reuse it.

Step 2: Once it is determined that a battery is no longer usable, mark the battery with the words “USED BATTERY” and with the “DATE” the battery became a waste. UPS batteries must be removed from their casing and marked in the same manner. “Wet” lead-acid batteries must be stored on secondary containment. Use a Universal Waste Collection Log to account for battery accumulation.

Step 3: Return the battery to your Supply Support Activity (SSA) for recycling. If you do not have a SSA, call the Hazardous Material Control Point (808) 656-0720 for assistance.



IMPORTANT: All batteries must be turned-in within 6-months of the “DATE” the battery became a waste.