

Waste Batteries and Electrical Recycling

What is WEEE?

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) is any household appliance with a plug or a battery that has been discarded or is at the end of their useful life. These items can be recycled FREE of charge. Examples of which may include:

Fridges	Hairdryers
Washing Machines	Computers
Microwaves	Electrical Tools
Vacuum Cleaners	Electrical Toys
TVs	Clocks
Watches	Remote Controls
Energy Saving Bulbs	Batteries

Where can I recycle for free?

A list of Civic Amenity Sites where householders can bring WEEE and waste batteries for recycling of FREE OF CHARGE can be found on www.wееeireland.ie or ask your Local Authority for details.

If you buy a new electrical appliance, don't forget to bring your old one back to that retailer for recycling. You have 15 days to do this so hold on to your receipt and it must be on a like-for-like basis E.g. buy a new kettle and return an old kettle.

If your supplier is delivering out an item such as a fridge or TV, they must organise to take your similar waste item on a like-for-like basis free of charge and they must give you 24 hours notice. If you don't have your item ready, you can return it yourself to the retailer within 30 days of delivery.

Ensure your old appliances are relatively clean and empty when returning them for recycling. Fridges and freezers should be emptied of food stuffs, defrosted and disconnected from all mains prior to collection. Washing machines should be emptied of water.

What do I do with waste batteries?

Waste batteries can be dropped off FREE OF CHARGE and with no obligation to purchase at any retailer supplying similar batteries. They don't have to accept leaking batteries or more than 5kg of portable batteries at a time.

They can also be dropped off FREE OF CHARGE to your local Civic Amenity Site (Recycling Centre).

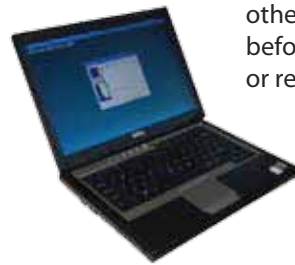
What should I do to help?

Watch out for details of WEEE Ireland's Public Collection Events and schools collection programmes in your area, giving you additional ways to recycle WEEE and waste batteries. See www.wееeireland.ie for details.

Don't forget to remove packaging such as boxes or plastic bags if leaving WEEE or waste batteries at CA sites for recycling.



It is advisable that you ensure personal information is wiped from PCs, Laptops, Phones and other communication devices before sending for recycling or reuse.



Priority to Reuse

Is your item in good and safe working order? If so, can a friend, family member or reputable charity make good use of it? If sending electrical items for reuse, ensure they are in a suitable condition to be used again, and that you know the end destination of the items.

**WEEE
WANT YOUR
WASTE BATTERIES**



An Taisce 



www.wееeireland.ie

WEEE and Battery Directives

The implementation of European Directives has meant importers and manufacturers (known as Producers) of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) and batteries have an obligation to organise the collection and recycling of WEEE and batteries in Ireland.

What is WEEE Ireland?

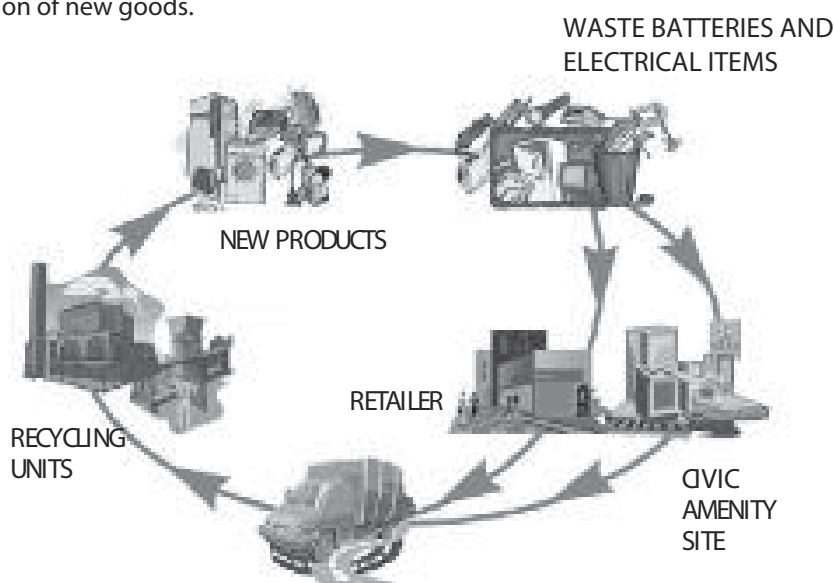
WEEE Ireland is the Irish compliance scheme for the recycling of batteries and electrical waste. We work on behalf of our Producer members in assisting Ireland in meeting its WEEE and battery recycling targets set by the EU.

What is the Producer Recycling Fund?

The price of some EEE includes a contribution to the Producer Recycling Fund to ensure these items are managed in an environmentally friendly way at the end of their useful lives. In some cases, these PRFs are shown visibly to the consumer on purchase of new equipment.

What happens to the old equipment?

WEEE is taken to specialist processing plants, which are authorised to treat WEEE and batteries. The recovery operators ensure that all collected equipment undergoes the necessary treatments E.g. removal of CFC gases and other hazardous components such as batteries. This ensures that WEEE is safely processed in an environmentally sound way and the maximum amount of base materials can be separated out and recovered. Recoverable materials, such as iron, copper, aluminium, glass and plastic are then reused for the production of new goods.

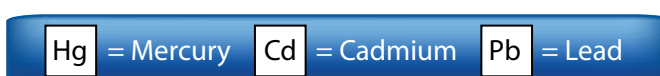


Do I need to remove batteries from appliances for recycling?

If the waste batteries can be safely removed from the appliance as per its instructions for use then you can do so and separate the batteries and WEEE for recycling.

If in doubt, leave the appliance with batteries intact and take back to an authorised collection point - waste contractors will separate the batteries during the recycling process.

What do the chemical symbols on batteries mean?



These symbols indicate the chemicals these batteries contain and highlight the importance of not putting them in the general rubbish bin but segregating spent batteries for recycling. These chemicals can be toxic to human health and environmental even in minute amounts.

The crossed out wheelie bin

The crossed out wheelie bin symbol on new electrical appliances means these items must not be disposed of in your household waste, but instead to segregate them for recycling.



An Taisce 



www.weeeireland.ie