



# Recycle your Rechargeable Batteries



## What is Rechargeable BATTERYback?

Rechargeable BATTERYback is a free pilot program, running in Toowoomba, designed to collect and recycle unwanted rechargeable batteries. It will be used to help develop future programs, and will run until 5th September 2016.

## How does it work?

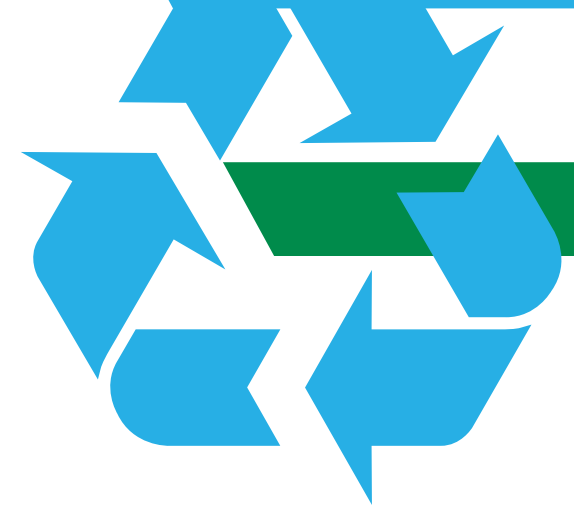
As a household battery user or small business, the program is straightforward:

- You collect your old rechargeable batteries (any brand name) that weigh less than 5kg.
- Find a participating retail store or site in Toowoomba by searching [RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables](http://RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables).
- Follow the Safe Disposal Instructions on the web site or the collection bin.
- Drop into the specially marked bins free of charge to you.

This pilot program will run for a limited time only, ends 5th September 2016.

## Safe Disposal Instructions

- Place each individual battery in a separate plastic bag prior to drop-off; or
- Tape the terminals or points of batteries with adhesive tape.
- Only rechargeable batteries less than 5kg accepted.



## How do I find a drop-off location?

There are specially marked bins in selected retail stores, council facilities and other sites in the Toowoomba area.

Simply go to [RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables](http://RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables) for a list of the participating organisations.

## What types of batteries are accepted?

Any brand of rechargeable battery that weighs less than 5kg is accepted. Examples include batteries from power-tools, mobile phones, laptops, cameras, model aircraft/cars, or any rechargeable AA, AAA, C, D or 9V battery. There is no limit on the number of batteries accepted.

A rechargeable battery is one that can be recharged many times by use of a battery charger. Typical battery chemistries that are rechargeable include:

- Lithium Ion (Li Ion)
- Nickel Cadmium (NiCad or NiCd)
- Nickel metal Hydride (NmH)

## Who is running the program?

The Rechargeable BATTERYback pilot project is an initiative of the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) and the Battery Industry Working Group (BIWG), who are also funding partners.

ABRI is a not-for-profit association, made up of industry, government and environment groups, and was established in 2008 to promote environmentally responsible management of batteries at end of life.

ABRI, Infoactiv, MRI and Planet Ark are working together to deliver the program on behalf of DEHP and BIWG.

## Why is recycling rechargeable batteries important?

The recycling rate for handheld batteries in Australia is less than 3%. Around 50 million rechargeable batteries (5,500 tonne) end up in landfill each year.

Many of these contain toxic substances such as lead and cadmium that pose a risk to human health and the environment if disposed of inappropriately. They also contain valuable metals such as nickel, copper, aluminium and cobalt as well as rare earth elements. These materials can be recovered and used in the manufacture of new products, reducing the consumption of finite natural resources.

## What happens to the batteries?

The batteries collected are safely transported to a specialist recycling facility operated by MRI where they are sorted by battery type or chemistry. The sorted batteries are then transported overseas for final processing and recycling under strict regulations and standards.

## What can I do with items that are not accepted in the program?

Please visit [RecyclingNearYou.com.au](http://RecyclingNearYou.com.au) to find alternate locations and services to recycle single-use batteries and other recyclable products.



## More Information

Website

[RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables](http://RecyclingNearYou.com.au/Rechargeables)

Call

**1800 489 278**

Email

**batteryback@infoactiv.com.au**



Program Partners:

