

Battery Collection Guidance for Fire Stations Self – Hauling to Marin HHW Facility

Zero Waste Marin JPA Household Hazardous Waste Program

Purpose

This document provides guidance for Marin County fire stations participating as public battery collection sites. The goal is to ensure safe collection, handling, storage, and transfer of batteries to the HHW facility while protecting staff, the public, and the environment. This guidance is available for download at <https://marinhhw.com/contact-marin-hhw/>

Program Overview

Fire stations serve as convenient public drop-off locations for household batteries. This program helps Marin County residents dispose of batteries responsibly and safely.

- Batteries collected are considered residential waste. Material is not subject to small business (Very Small Quantity Generator) pricing.
- Full buckets must be transported to the Marin Household Hazardous Waste (MHHW) by fire station staff.

Public Drop-Off Instructions

- Collection containers include instructions for the public.
- Residents are encouraged to:
 - Place batteries in designated drop-off area.
 - Tape battery terminals (especially lithium and 9-volt batteries) to prevent sparks or fires.
 - Car batteries are not accepted.
 - Other household hazardous waste is not accepted.
 - Damaged, or broken batteries are not to be accepted.

Note: Containers should be accessible to the public.

Fire Station Staff Responsibilities

1. Collection Management

- Fire Station Staff should oversee and manage battery placement.
- Do not allow loose or improper disposal outside the designated container.
- By participating in this program, you understand the associated risks of battery collection.
- Damaged, or broken batteries are not to be accepted.
 - Encourage residents to drop off damaged, defective, or recalled (DDR) batteries at the HHW Facility.
 - San Rafael HHW Facility
565 Jacoby Street
San Rafael, CA 94901
(415)-456-2665
Residential Hours:
Tuesday – Saturday 8:00 a.m. -3:30 p.m.
Closed, Sunday, Monday & Select holidays.
[San Rafael Household Hazardous Waste Facility | Drop-Off Information](#)
 - Novato HHW Facility
7576 Redwood Blvd
Novato, CA 94945
(415) 892-7344
Open four days a month. See website for current dates and hours.
[Novato Household Hazardous Waste Facility | Drop-Off Information](#)
- When collection liners are full, please transfer batteries to 5-gallon buckets provided to you by Zero Waste Marin and contact The Marin Household Hazardous Waste Facility to schedule a drop-off appointment.



(415) 456-2665



Email: <https://marinhhw.com/contact-marin-hhw/>

2. Containers

- Battery Collection Bins have three compartments.

- Three – 3 Gallon Liners
- ZWM HHW Programs will provide you with a total additional of Two – 5 Gallon Buckets.
 - 1. Use the 5 Gallon Buckets in the event there is a missed collection of batteries or other unforeseen circumstances to store additional batteries.
- Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area away from flammable materials.
 - 1. Please keep 5-gallon buckets closed with included lids.

3. Labeling Requirements

- Storage and labeling:
 - Please ensure the accumulation date label is updated every time the white battery container is serviced.
 - If label needs to be replaced, Fire Station staff will communicate with ZWM HHW Staff for replacement.



Email us at zero.waste@marincounty.gov

- ZWM will provide:
 - 1. The storage labels.
 - 2. Replacement buckets and liners.
 - 3. Signage and guidance.
 - 4. Please email us if any of these need to be replaced.
- All containers must be properly labeled for collection and transportation.
- Universal Waste-Battery(ies)
 - 1. Space for:
 - a. Site name
 - b. Site address
 - c. Accumulation start date

Universal Waste-Battery(ies)

Site Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Accumulation date

Month	Day	Year
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
/	/	/
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- Transportation:
 - Fire Station staff will self-haul batteries in buckets provided by ZWM.
 1. Update the date on the Universal-Waste Battery(ies) label each time you transport to the HHW facility.
 - a. Site name
 - b. Site address
 - c. Accumulation start date
 2. When transporting please ensure:
 - a. Buckets are sealed with lid.
 - b. Transport in an upright position.

Battery Drop-Off Location

Marin Household Hazardous Waste Facility

565 Jacoby Street
San Rafael, CA 94901

Appointments are required.

Schedule appointments Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 415-456-2665

4. Recommended Safety Practices

- Always assume batteries may be damaged or reactive.

- Use gloves when handling batteries.
- Immediately isolate:
 - Leaking batteries
 - Swollen or damaged lithium batteries
- Keep a Class D Fire Extinguisher or appropriate fire suppression method accessible if available.
- Never mix batteries with other waste.

5. Handling & Storage

- Avoid crushing, puncturing, or compacting batteries.
- Keep containers:
 - Upright
 - Closed

6. Training

- Provided by ZWM HHW Team upon request.
- Training will include:
 - Filling out label
 - Assessing damaged batteries