BATTERY PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP: A WAY FORWARD FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT

WHAT IS BATTERY PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP?
A battery stewardship program ensures manufacturers are responsible for the lifecycle of batteries, from design to disposal.

WHY IS BATTERY PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP IMPORTANT?
The growing demand of consumer electronics, cordless power tools, and electric vehicles have increased the number of batteries being improperly disposed of. Batteries contain hazardous materials that can harm the environment and cause fires and other safety issues at waste management facilities. This trend is expected to grow and will continue to impact waste management facilities.

8 STATES have enacted battery stewardship laws

BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING BATTERY PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

- Provides safer disposal options at no cost for residents
- Reduces government and ratepayer costs
- Increases the number of batteries recycled
- Lowers fire risk at waste management facilities, improving employee safety
- Decreases environmental pollution across the state
IMPROPER BATTERY DISPOSAL...

CONTRIBUTES TO COSTS FOR GOVERNMENTS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

ANNUAL COST

$1.2B to manage battery-caused fires across the U.S. and Canada

INCREASES SAFETY RISKS FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

ESTIMATED

2,620 total fires at waste management facilities in U.S. and Canada

OVER 50% of fire-related incidents at waste management facilities are battery-related ignitions

18 States saw an increase in reported facility fires

RECYCLED BATTERIES BY THE NUMBERS

ONLY 12-15% of rechargeable batteries are recycled in the U.S.

914,000 pounds of household batteries improperly disposed of as municipal waste in King County

Household batteries make up a total of nearly 18% of King County’s hazardous waste collection