



# FACT SHEET

GUIDE NO. 17

## RECHARGEABLE AA, AAA, C, D, 9-VOLT BATTERIES: THEN AND NOW



**NiMH batteries have the capability of being charged 150 to 500 times.**

Many people who tried rechargeable batteries in the past do not have the fondest of memories toward rechargeables. We experienced batteries that would not hold a charge for more

than an hour (if they took a charge at all) and we were never sure if it was the battery or the charger pack. The only certainty was that we spent more money on rechargeable and received less energy! Fortunately, rechargeable battery technology has changed dramatically.

With the increase in electronic gadgets that use rechargeable battery packs such as cell phones, computers, PDA's, cameras etc. we have seen a dramatic increase in the cycle life of household battery types AA, AAA, C, D and 9-Volt. Today's rechargeable batteries are made with NiMH (nickel metal hydride) and have a higher energy density and can provide up to 4 times the performance service of older NiCd (nickel cadmium) batteries for each charge. Today's NiMH batteries have the capability of being charged 150 to 500 times!

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

#### Why should I use rechargeables?

Recharging, *i.e.* reusing your batteries, will save you money.

Recharging, *i.e.* reusing your batteries, will naturally lower the quantity of batteries that enter the landfill.

#### Can I use rechargeable batteries in any device?

This is not always the case. Please read both the device manufacturer's and the battery manufacturer's recommendations.

#### How can I extend the amount of charges for the batteries?

Experts say that this will depend on the type of charger you use: faster chargers = shorter battery life; slower chargers = longer battery life.

#### Where can I purchase rechargeable batteries?

Rechargeable batteries are now available at most stores where you would purchase the standard alkaline batteries (see the reverse side of this sheet.)

#### How do I dispose of non-working rechargeable batteries?

Rechargeable batteries should be placed in your orange recycle bin (AA, AAA, C, D and 9-VOLT), taken to a local retailer for recycling (see reverse) or brought to a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection. They should NOT be thrown into the trash. Contact the Solid Waste Department for information on the next scheduled HHW event.

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## LOCAL RETAILERS THAT CARRY RECHARGEABLE AA, AAA, C, D & 9-VOLT BATTERIES

Most retailers that sell alkaline batteries now offer rechargeables as well. Local stores in the Plymouth area include:

- ACO Hardware:** Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon
- Batteries Plus:** Ann Arbor Road west of Haggerty
- CVS:** Ann Arbor Road at Haggerty  
Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon  
Ann Arbor Road at Ridge
- K-Mart:** Ann Arbor Road at Haggerty
- Rite-Aid:** Ann Arbor Road at Main Street

## LOCAL BATTERY RECYCLING DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation's "Call 2 Recycle" program is supported by many retailers. They do NOT accept Alkaline, Lithium and non-rechargeable batteries. Look for drop off boxes at these Plymouth Township area retailers:

- \* **Batteries Plus:** Ann Arbor Road west of Haggerty 734-254-9815
- Home Depot:** 5 Mile Road and Beck 734-207-6147
- Lowe's:** Ford Road east of Sheldon 734-355-9200
- Office Max:** Ford Road west of Lilley 734-981-0202
- Radio Shack:** Ford Road east of Canton Center 734-455-6800
- K-Mart:** Ann Arbor Road at Haggerty 734-455-5000
- Sears:** Westland Shopping Center 734-762-7800
- Target:** Ford Road east of Sheldon 734-454-1133

**Note:** Rechargeable batteries can still contain a charge and may heat up if terminals come in contact with other battery terminals. Minimize risks: place batteries in separate plastic bags. Contact stores for specific requirements.

- \* Batteries Plus accepts most types of batteries for recycling.