

**ANGELINA COLLEGE  
UNIVERSAL WASTE DISPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**NO.** EI-02  
6.2.a

**TITLE:** Battery Disposal

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**ISSUED:** 11/2011

**REVISED:** 03/2026

**Introduction:**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed and streamlined hazardous waste management requirements for collecting and managing certain widely generated hazardous waste by creating a "Universal Waste" category.

This rule is designed to:

- Reduce the amount of hazardous waste items in the municipal solid waste stream
- Encourage recycling and proper disposal
- Reduce regulatory burdens on entities that generate these wastes

All employees who handle or have responsibility for managing universal waste must be informed and trained as to the proper handling and emergency procedures appropriate to the type(s) of universal waste.

**Universal Waste Covered:**

Battery means a device consisting of one or more electrically connected electrochemical cells that are designed to receive, store, and deliver electric charge. The electrochemical cell contains an anode, a cathode, and an electrolyte plus connections. The term battery also includes an intact, unbroken battery from which the electrolyte has been removed. Batteries regulated as Universal Waste will have one or more of the following chemistries: lead acid, nickel cadmium, silver, mercury, lithium, or magnesium.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Rechargeable
- Small Sealed Lead Acid
- Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cad)
- Lithium Ion (Li-ion)
- Magnesium
- Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH)
- Mercury/Mercury Oxide
- Silver/Silver Oxide
- Button Cell

**Note:** Carbon-Zinc batteries are not regulated and can be discarded into the municipal waste stream.

**Note:** Large automotive batteries (Lead-Acid) have special handling and disposal requirements. Contact the Manager of Environmental and Emergency Management at (936) 633-3244 for additional information.

**Disposal Procedure:**

- Tape the electrical terminals using electrical tape, OR
- Place each battery in a sealed zip-lock bag.
- Take waste batteries to the universal waste collection point.

As a Very Small Quantity Generator, Angelina College must manage waste batteries in a way that prevents releases of any component of the battery to the environment. If a battery shows evidence of leakage or damage that could cause leakage, place the battery in a closed, structurally sound container.

**Universal Waste Storage Area:**

The Universal Waste Storage Area is located inside the fenced area south of the Maintenance Shop.

**Collection of Universal Wastes:**

Contact the Physical Plant at (936) 633-5280.

**If Unsure, Contact:**

Manager of Environmental at (936) 633-3244.