



OAKWOOD VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

LITHIUM BATTERY SAFETY AT HOME

What Are Lithium Batteries?

Lithium-ion batteries power many everyday devices like phones, laptops, scooters, e-bikes, and tools. While convenient, they can be hazardous if mishandled or damaged.

BEST PRACTICES

- **Charge Safely:**
Always use the charger provided by the manufacturer. Avoid overcharging or leaving devices charging unattended overnight.
 - **Store Properly:**
Store batteries at room temperature, away from direct sunlight, water, and flammable materials.
 - **Avoid Damage:**
Do not crush, puncture, or expose batteries to extreme heat.
 - **Monitor Age:**
Replace old or swollen batteries. A battery's life decreases over time and frequent charging.
 - **Use Certified Products:**
Look for batteries and chargers with recognized safety certifications (like UL).
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WARNING SIGNS OF A PROBLEM

If you notice any of the following, stop using the battery immediately:


- Swelling or bulging
- Leaking or corrosion, strange odors, excessive heat.
- Hissing, popping, smoking, sparks or flames.

Act Fast: If it's safe, move the battery away from flammable items and **call 911**

PROPER DISPOSAL

Never throw lithium batteries in the trash or recycling bin! They can start fires in garbage trucks or landfills.

Instead:

- Take them to a **designated battery recycling center**. (Home Depot or Lowes)
- Check local **hazardous waste drop-off events**. Use tools like **Call2Recycle.org** to find a location near you.
-  **Remember:**
Being informed helps prevent fires, injuries, and environmental damage. Let's stay safe and keep our community protected!