

## Beyond The Bottles and Cans: What to Do With 'Other' Recyclables

### Batteries

Disposal of batteries can vary based on the chemistry. They are considered household hazardous waste and while some can be thrown away, many require special treatment. Later this year, Henderson County will be opening its own permanent site for electronics and household hazardous waste collection but until then, these are some options.

<http://www.rbrc.org/call2recycle/index.html>

This website lists drop off sites for certain chemistries of rechargeable batteries and cell phones. Simply type in your location and it will list the nearest sites to you.

<http://earth911.org/blog/2007/07/05/how-to-recycle-and-properly-dispose-of-batteries/>

A comprehensive source of battery recycling information

Most alkaline batteries (common batteries like Duracell and Energizer) are not recyclable, and can be thrown away with regular municipal trash.

### Light Bulbs

Light bulbs can for the most part be disposed of with regular municipal trash. They aren't a banned landfill item on either a state or federal level, and as far as concerns over mercury-containing CFLs, there is about 1/100<sup>th</sup> of the amount of mercury as there is in a fever thermometer-not really enough to pose a substantial health or environmental threat.

Commercial fluorescent bulbs are classified as Household Hazardous Waste. Later this year, Henderson County will be opening its own permanent site for electronics and household hazardous waste collection so if you are in possession of any commercial fluorescent bulbs, please save them until a collection schedule is announced.

You can also visit <http://www.epa.gov/bulbrecycling/> for tips and information.

### Paint

Paints that are not oil based can be dried and disposed of with regular municipal trash. To dry, simply remove the lid and wait until paint hardens. To quicken the process, sand or kitty litter may be added. Be sure to wait until the paint has solidified. DO NOT dispose of paint by pouring it down the drain, this can create water quality issues.

## White Goods, Tires, Antifreeze and Used Motor Oil

All of these can be disposed of free of charge at the county transfer station.

## Yard Waste and Pallets

Pallets and yard waste have a tipping fee and separate set of disposal guidelines. Please see the county solid waste pamphlet or visit <http://www.henderson.lib.nc.us/county/depts/SWGuidelineBrochure.pdf> for more detailed information.

## Electronics

There are numerous options for electronics recycling. Later this year, Henderson County will be opening its own permanent site for electronics and household hazardous waste collection but until then, these are some options

### *-Blue Ridge Computer Recycling*

49 Glendale Avenue, Asheville

<http://www.brcrecycling.com/>

(828) 232-5766

Accepts: Computer Monitors (up to 21", with glass intact), Servers, Desktop Computers, Notebook Computers, Printers, Scanners, Fax Machines, UPS Systems, Networking Equipment, Mice & Keyboards, Cables, Computer Speakers, Digital Cameras, PDAs

Where does it go?

Materials are evaluated for repair, systems that can be repaired are and are sent to charitable organizations, ones that aren't are checked for any reusable parts and the remainder is refined into reusable materials. **Nothing is sent overseas.**

### *-G-Tronics Audio and Video*

305 S. Church Street, Hendersonville

(828) 692-1446

Accepts: Old computers and computer related items-printers, scanners, etc. No old television sets, VCR's or appliances.

Where does it go? Blue Ridge Computer Recycling

### *-Goodwill Industries*

3530 Hendersonville Rd

Fletcher, NC 28732

(828) 687-0653

2111A Asheville Hwy

Hendersonville, NC 28739

(828) 692-7414

Accepts: Computers and computer related items such as scanners, printers, keyboards, etc. Also small appliances like blenders, cell phones, regular phones, and televisions (must be in working condition and no more than 5 or 7 years old)

Where does it go? Goodwill works with Dell and various charitable institutes to repair, reuse and redistribute electronics.

### *-Manufacturer Take-back*

More and more manufacturers are launching take-back programs for their products. Dell is a well-known example of this. These programs require that you ship the product back to their headquarters when you are through with it. Check with your manufacturer and see if this is an option.

### **Other**

Some resources for potential recyclables with no category

<http://www.recyclethis.co.uk/>

A great source for finding answers for atypical disposal items.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HendersonCountyNCFreecycle/>

The Henderson County section of a free exchange website.

<http://re3org.blogspot.com/>

A good source of current recycling information and campaigns. Run by NC Department of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

### **If you have any other questions about recycling, please contact:**

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