

## Batteryback Program Throughout Victoria

### What is Batteryback?

Batteryback is a free Victorian Government initiative that recycles old and used household batteries. The program was established in June 2007 as joint initiative of Government body 'Sustainability Victoria' Management group, Cleanaway and battery manufactures Uniross. Batteryback provides collection containers at selected stores - Bunnings, Coles, Michael Camera and Officeworks.

### Types of batteries recycled

The Batteryback service collects all recycled domestic alkaline (single use) and rechargeable batteries including Nickel Cadmium (NiCd), Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) and Lithium Ion (Li-Ion). Appliances and products may include:

- Mobile phone
- Digital cameras
- Cordless phones
- Portable electric shavers
- Cordless power tools
- Laptops computers
- Palm pilots
- Remote controlled toys
- Portable video games
- Portable disc players

### What happens to the batteries after collection?

The batteries are sorted by chemistry type before being distributed to a range of recycling services throughout Australia and overseas. Currently Australia does not have the technology and facilities required to recycle rechargeable and single use batteries. Batteries are processed overseas by a company specialising in the recovery of Nickel, Cadmium, Lithium, Zinc and other precious resources to strict environmental standards.

If not disposed correctly, batteries can contaminate soil, groundwater and other water streams which could have long lasting effects on the ecosystem of the surrounding area.

For further information contact Sustainability Victoria 1300 363 744

### References

<http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/www/html/3415-batteryback-battery-recycling.asp>

<http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/www/html/1517-home-page.asp>