

# 8 BATTERY RECYCLING GREEN FACTS



## 1. Did you know that the average Canadian uses 20 single-use batteries each year?

Think about all of the electronic gadgets you have. Most gaming controllers use at least two AA batteries. Do you have a camera or an optical mouse for your computer? Take an inventory of all of the batteries that you use and make the responsible choice to recycle them when they no longer hold a charge.

## 2. Did you know that metal is infinitely recyclable?

It is, and when you choose to recycle it you're saving up to 90% of the energy it takes to mine and refine metal from ore. The average alkaline battery is 25% steel and nickel. All of the steel and nickel recovered from alkaline batteries is reused to manufacture of cars and appliances.

## 3. Did you know that some batteries contain heavy metals?

Some batteries contain heavy metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, and nickel. When a battery is put into the garbage, the casing breaks down and the insides leach into the soil at the landfill and contaminate the aquifer below. When batteries are incinerated along with household garbage, some of the metals escape into the atmosphere and concentrate in the ash that remains after the combustion process.

## 4. Did you know batteries make up less than 1% of all waste in the landfill?

It's true, but that 1% is responsible for more than 80% of all the heavy metals found in the landfill.

## 5. Did you know that Ontario recycles more primary single-use batteries than any other province in Canada?

In 2020, Ontario residents recycled 54% of what was available.

We've come a long way since 2009, when Canadians only recycled 5% of what was available. Great job!

**6. Did you know 100% of the materials in each alkaline battery you recycle is recovered and reused in new products?**

Its true! Using a mechanical process to break alkaline batteries apart, we are able to recover 100% of the steel, zinc, manganese, potassium, paper and plastic. All of the materials are reused locally without additives or refinement.

**7. Did you know zinc is one of the world's most commonly used metals?**

Approximately 30% of the zinc today comes from recycled sources... like recycled batteries. Our mechanical process is able to recover the zinc from the batteries that you recycle and reuse it as a micro-nutrient additive in fertilizer.

Farmers that use our micro-nutrient additive are able to increase their crop yields. This is important considering our growing population and the need to make efficient use of our existing farmland.

