

6 Everyday Products Illegal To Throw In The Trash

ARE YOU BREAKING THE LAW?

Batteries

Date of Invention
1800's

Invented By:
Allesandro Volta

DID YOU KNOW?

Batteries are non-biodegradable and contain toxic chemicals. These chemicals can infect the environment by getting into soil and contaminating groundwater.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

Put the battery in a plastic bag and deliver it to a household hazardous waste (HHW) recycling center.

Motor Oil

Date of Invention
1866

Invented By:
John Ellis

DID YOU KNOW?

It can potentially spill into drains, and cause major contamination to waterways, affecting the wastewater treatment process.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

Take your oil to a certified collection center (CCC). Some cities and townships have curbside recycling programs as well.

Fluorescent Bulbs

Date of Invention
1926

Invented By:
Edmund Germer

DID YOU KNOW?

The fluorescent light bulb is not only fragile it also contains a hazardous metal called mercury. If the light bulb is placed in the trash, it can crack open, causing the mercury to leak from the bulb.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

Typically stores that sell this type of light bulb offer recycling programs. Check with the stores in your area to verify they have a recycling program for this type of bulb.

Ionization Smoke Detectors

Date of Invention
1965

Invented By:
Duane Pearsall & Stanley Bennett Peterson

DID YOU KNOW?

Ionization smoke detectors contain radioactive materials, which are extremely harmful to not only the environment but could also harm people living in the home that has this type of smoke alarm.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

Recycle them with the manufacturer or take them to a household hazardous waste (HHW) center.

Tires

Date of Invention
1845

Invented By:
Robert William Thompson

DID YOU KNOW?

Tires include steel belts that can cause contamination in the ground by poking into liners in different landfills.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

Paying your local trash service, car dealer, or tire retailer to pick up the tire are three great options for proper disposal.

Gasoline

Date of Invention
1893

Invented By:
Charles & Frank Duryea

DID YOU KNOW?

Gasoline can not only cause a fire but it can also cause serious damage and contamination if not disposed of properly.

HOW TO LEGALLY DISCARD?

For instructions on how to properly dispose of gas we recommend contacting your local fire department or auto repair shop.

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A NEW INVENTION?
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