LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, PEVs, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch fire or even explode. Damaged batteries can also leak electrolyte, which is both flammable and corrosive. Exposure to leaking chemicals can irritate skin, eyes, and lungs. For more information directly from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) review this published Safety and Health Topics page (SHTP) on **Lithium-ion Battery Safety**



THE PROBLEM

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

SIGNS OF A PROBLEM

Stop using the battery if you notice any of these problems:

- odor
- change in color
- too much heat
- change in shape
- leaking
- odd noises

If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire and call ND Dispatch at 574.631.5555 or 911 from a campus phone.

BATTERY DISPOSAL

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Undamaged batteries should be recycled. Submit an AiM workorder for removal.
- Damaged batteries are considered waste. For removal, complete an RMS Chemical Discard Tag.
- For more information regarding the Battery Recycling Program you can also visit green.nd.edu



SAFETY TIPS

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the correct way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.