USED BATTERIES
ACCUMULATION AREA

All batteries at IUB are managed as Universal Waste. This includes nickel-cadmium, lithium, mercury, and nickel-metal-hydride as well as lead acid batteries. Standard alkaline batteries are also included even though they are non-hazardous. They are included with the Universal Waste batteries because many people at IU prefer to recycle them from a sustainability standpoint and also because it is difficult, with limited resources, to get community members to sort their batteries before they put them in collection containers.

GENERAL RULES:

Make sure that all containers are sturdy and in good condition before adding any batteries to them.

Keep a clean work area and clean up spills promptly when they occur.

PACKAGING:

Non-Leaking Batteries – Use the boxes, buckets, or drums – preferably non-metal to avoid any accidental discharge of batteries. The containers do not need to have lids.

Leaking or Corroded Batteries that show evidence of leakage – Use boxes, buckets, or drums – preferably non-metal to avoid any accidental discharge of batteries. The containers must have lids. This is a regulatory requirement.

LABELING:

Make sure that all labels and markings from previous uses have been removed from containers or marked out completely.

Make sure each container is labeled with the words “Universal Waste Batteries” and the date as soon as the first battery is added to the container.

ACCUMULATION TIME LIMIT:

Battery containers must be disposed within 1 year from the time the first battery is added to the container. Because some time is needed to sort and prepare the batteries, and arrange offsite shipments, EHS requires that
battery containers be removed from accumulation areas within 9 months of their initial opening.

Once a container is full or has been open for 9 months, request a pickup using the link at www.ehs.iu.edu.