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TAKE-BACK RECYCLING A BUSINESS GUIDE

What Retailers and Service Providers in Huntington Need to Know About New York State Mandated Take-Back Recycling Programs

Depending on your type of business, you may be required to take back from residents the items listed in this guide. These requirements originate from different Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws that address product recycling and disposal.

Benefits of Take-Back Programs

By engaging in programs that manage the end-of-life of their products, businesses provide a valuable customer service, establish their credentials as a green business, and attract additional purchases from customers who drop off materials at their stores.

Disposal Bans

Most of the products mentioned in this brochure are governed by specific disposal regulations and cannot be thrown away in the regular trash.

Items collected from consumers through mandated take-back programs can't be discarded in the trash. This includes plastic bags, electronics rechargeable batteries, cell phones, auto tires, auto batteries and motor oil.

Please note: The information contained in this guide is accurate as of January 2016.

Plastic Bags



Items That Must Be Accepted:

The same type of plastic carryout bag provided to customers at the point of sale.

Other plastic film that can be accepted includes:

- Newspaper bags
- Dry cleaning bags
- Shrink wrap
- Clean food bags

Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law: NY State Plastic Bag Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling Act
NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 27

Businesses Affected: All stores that provide plastic carry out bags to customers.
Exceptions: any store with fewer than 5,000 square feet, or any non-chain store with less than 10,000 square feet.

Additional Info: Plastic bag manufacturers have created that following website to help retailers set up plastic bag recycling programs: plasticbagrecycling.org
For info about the law, visit the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation at [their NYS Plastic Bag Reduction webpage.](#)

How to Comply:

- Place plastic bag recycling collection bins in visible and easily accessible locations.
- Clearly mark that the collection bin is available for collecting and recycling plastic bags.
- Ensure that collected plastic bags are actually recycled.
- Provide bags that are labeled with the following information to customers at the point of sale.

Please return to a participating store for recycling.

- Offer reusable bags for sale.



Electronics

Items That Must Be Accepted:

- Cable or satellite receivers
- Computers
- Digital converter boxes
- Document scanners
- DVD players
- DVRs
- Electronic keyboards
- Electronic mice or similar pointing devices
- Electronic or video game consoles
- Facsimile machines
- Monitors
- Portable digital music players
- Printers
- Television (as well as cathode ray tubes)
- Small-scale servers
- VCRs



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law: NY State Electronic Equipment Recycling and Reuse Act
NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 26

Businesses Affected: Retailers that sell electronics must meet certain sales and public information requirements. In addition, retailers can voluntarily partner with manufacturers to collect electronics from residents and small businesses. Examples of large and small retailers choosing to participate include Best Buy and Staples.

Additional Info: For info about the law, visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation at [their webpage explaining requirements for retailers of electronic equipment](#) or call 518-402-8706.

How to Comply:

- Do not sell electronics from an unregistered manufacturer. Check the link above for a list.
- Provide public education about the recycling of electronics.



Rechargeable Batteries

Items That Must Be Accepted:

The same types of rechargeable batteries sold, including:

- Nickel-cadmium
- Nickel metal hydride
- Lithium ion
- Small sealed lead acid
- Any other such dry cell battery capable of being recharged
- Battery packs containing any of the above-mentioned batteries



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law: NY State Rechargeable Battery Law

NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 18

Businesses Affected: Stores that sell rechargeable batteries or products containing rechargeable batteries.

Exceptions: food store with less than 14,000 square feet of display space.

Additional Info: Rechargeable battery manufacturers have created the Call2Recycle program to help retailers set up rechargeable battery recycling programs.

Visit call2recycle.org or call (800) 8-BATTERY (800-822-8837).

For info about the law, visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation at [their rechargeable battery recycling webpage](#).

How to Comply:

- Place rechargeable battery collection boxes (supplied by the manufacturer) in visible and easily accessible locations. Rechargeable battery collection boxes can be ordered, shipped & recycled at no cost through call2recycle.org.
- Accept up to ten batteries per day from any person, or as many batteries as a customer buys.
- Prominently display a sign near the entrance with the following

It is illegal to dispose of rechargeable batteries in the state of New York as solid waste. We accept used rechargeable batteries for return to the manufacturer.



Cell Phones

Items That Must Be Accepted:

Any type of mobile telephone (any device used by subscribers and other user so wireless telephone service to access such service).



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law: NY State Wireless Recycling Act
NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 23

Businesses Affected: All [wireless telephone service providers](#).
This includes all retailers who sell cell phones with service plans.

Additional Info: Call2Recycle is a program to help retailers set up cell phone recycling programs. Visit call2recycle.org or call (800) 8-BATTERY (800-822-8837).
For more information on the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation at their [Recycling Wireless Telephones webpage](#)

How to Comply:

- Partner with a [charity, manufacturer, or recycler](#) for the collection of cell phones.
- Accept at no charge up to ten used wireless telephones from any person during normal business hours, or pay for the shipping of used wireless telephones to a recycling program directly from the person.
- Prominently display a sign indicating that used wireless telephones are accepted or free postage paid envelopes are provided.
- Post program information on your website.
- Ensure each used wireless telephone accepted or shipped is recycled, reused, or disposed of in an environmental sound manner.



Auto Tires

Items That Must Be Accepted:

Any motor vehicle tire when tire is purchased.



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law:

NY State Waste Tire Management and Recycling Act

Law: NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 19

Regulations: 6 NYCRR subpart 360-13

Businesses Affected:

Any tire service (meaning anyone in New York state that sells or installs new tires on any vehicle); and anyone that sells new motor vehicles.

Include tire shops, auto parts stores, vehicle repair shops, new car dealerships, among others.

Additional Info:

For additional information visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation webpage on [Waste Tires](#).

How to Comply:

- When a customer purchases new tires, collect a \$2.50 per tire waste tire management and recycling fee.
- When a customer purchases new tires, accept the tires that they are replacing at no cost.
- Post an 8 1/2 " x 14" or larger sign stating :

New York State law requires us to accept and manage waste tires from vehicles in exchange for an equal number of new tires that we sell or install.

Tire retailers are required to charge a separate and distinct waste tire management and recycling fee of \$2.50 for each new tire sold.

Our waste tire management and recycling costs are included in the advertised price of each new tire.

- Remit \$2.25 of the \$2.50 waste tire management and recycling fee to the NY State Department of Taxation and Finance with the Quarterly Report. See the [NY State Dept. of Tax & Finance Waste Tire Management Fee](#) webpage for info.

Auto Batteries

Items That Must Be Accepted:

Any lead or sulfuric acid vehicle battery of six or more volts.



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law:

NY State Auto Battery Regulations

Law: NY State ECL, Article 27, Title 17

Regulations: 6 NYCRR 374-1.7

Businesses Affected:

Retailers that sell new lead-acid batteries to consumers, and distributors (including manufacturers) that sell lead-acid batteries to retailers.

Includes locations such as auto parts stores and vehicle repair shops.

How to Comply:

- Accept up to two used auto batteries per month from any person.
- Post a sign showing the recycling symbol and stating:

It is illegal to discard vehicle batteries. State law requires us to accept vehicle batteries at no charge for recycling.

- If the consumer does not return a used lead-acid battery when purchasing a new one, then collect a return-incentive payment of 45 per battery sold.
- Refund the \$5 if the consumer returns the old battery within 30 days.
- Ensure that the auto batteries are properly recycled, or managed and disposed of as hazardous waste.



Motor Oil

Items That Must Be Accepted:

- Motor oil
- Transmission fluid
- Hydraulic fluid



Legal Requirements:

Applicable Law:

NY State Motor Oil Regulations

Law: NY State ECL, Article 23, Title 23

Regulations: 6 NYCRR subpart 360-14 and 6NYCRR subpart 374-2

Businesses Affected:

Service establishments (such as vehicle repair shops) that sell at least 500 gallons per year of new oil and perform vehicle servicing.

Retail establishment (such as auto parts stores) that sell at least 1,000 gallons per year of new oil.

Additional Info:

For more information visit the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation webpage on [Used Oil Disposal](#).

How to Comply:

- Accept at no charge up to 5 gallons of used oil per person per day. (retailers that are not service establishments but sell more than 1000 gallons of new oil each year must comply but they may contract to have another service or retail establishment accept used oil on their behalf.)
- Prominently display a sign legible from at least 25 feet from outside the building with at least 1 inch lettering stating:

We accept used oil for recycling at no charge.

- Contract with a permitted industrial hauler to pick up used oil for recycling or disposal.

