

# **PREVENT FIRES**

# **Lithium-ion Battery Safety Tips**











Lithium-Ion batteries are used in various devices such as in golf carts, cell phones, laptops, vape pens, electric cars, scooters, E-bikes, cordless tools, and other rechargeable products.

### MISUSED, DAMAGED, OR DEFECTIVE BATTERIES CAN OVERHEAT, CATCH FIRE, OR EXPLODE.

## When using any devices powered by lithium-ion batteries:

- Only use electronic devices / equipment that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories. The UL mark shows that the product has been safety tested.
- Never leave any batteries on charge unattended or while you sleep. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging and storage.
- Don't charge mobility devices or large battery packs in the living areas of your residence or any hallways that lead to an exit.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Always use the manufacturer's cord and power adapter made specifically for the device.
- Only use a qualified tested battery that is designed for the device.
- Keep batteries / devices at room temperature. Do not place in direct sunlight.
- Store batteries away from anything flammable.
- If batteries become wet, do not use, or charge them.

If a battery overheats and begins smoking or you notice an odor, change in shape/color, leaking, or odd noises from a device discontinue use immediately. If safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire and call 9-1-1.



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#### DAMAGED BATTERY IDENTIFICATION

- Batteries that have leaked or vented.
- Batteries suspected of being damaged but cannot be diagnosed.
- Batteries showing signs of physical or mechanical damage, such as:
  - Swelling, relative to the same battery in its original state.
  - Discoloration of the battery casing.
  - Smell or corrosion.
  - Loose or damaged wires.
  - Known conditions of use or misuse.

#### **NEVER CHARGE OR USE A DAMAGED BATTERY**

Signs a battery cell is about to fail include:

- White smoke
- Hissing
- Popping
- Extreme heat buildup

# IF A LITHIUM-ION BATTERY IS SHOWING SIGNS OF FAILURE CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY

# **Battery Disposal:**

- Putting lithium-ion batteries in the trash or recycling at home is illegal.
- Recycle batteries by taking them to a battery recycling location (Home Depot, Lowes, Staples) or the Jacksonville Household Hazardous Waste Facility.
- Bag batteries individually or tape ends before disposing of them at a recycle center.

### **Take Damaged Batteries To:**

Jacksonville Household Hazardous Waste Facility 2675 Commonwealth Ave Jacksonville, FL 32254 904-387-8847