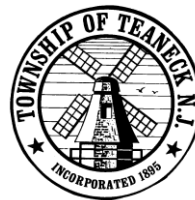




# Teaneck Fire Department

Township of Teaneck  
1231 Teaneck Road  
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666  
(201)-837-2085



**Joseph Berchtold**  
*Fire Chief*

To: Township of Teaneck

Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Tips

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Lithium-Ion batteries: (which have been around since late 1990's )

Lithium metal: It is one of the lightest metals in the world

By 2030 all most all vehicle sold with be battery .

Lithium-Ion batteries are used in various devices, such as cell phones, laptops, tablets, electric cars, and scooters. Lithium-Ion batteries store a large amount of energy and can pose a threat if not treated properly. Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective and can overheat, catch fire, or explode. Be aware of the following when using devices powered by lithium-ion batteries: When they burn they reach temperatures near 2800 degrees. When combined with water produce hydrogen gas.

- When purchasing devices, be sure that the equipment has the Underwriters Laboratories mark. This mark shows that the product was safety tested.

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging and storage.

Rapid recharging can cause issues, fast repeatedly recharging.

- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or a couch.

Try not to charge over night or out of site.

DO not crush puncture incinerate.

- Always use the manufacturer's cord and power adapter made specifically for the device.

- Keep batteries/devices at room temperature. Do not place in direct sunlight.

Batteries do not like extreme cold below 32 degrees and about 140 degrees .

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- Store batteries away from anything flammable.

Charging stations when installed inside a structure should not be placed by any means of egress.

Example: E bikes and E scooters that are left in an entrance way to an apartment because of ease of charging.

If a fire starts, it prevents the occupants from escaping out the door. It also prevents fire fighter's, making their way into the apartment.

- If a battery overheats or you notice an odor, (sweet odor like cherry bubblegum) change in shape/color, leakages, or odd noises from a device, discontinue use immediately.
- . Some signs of failure are, hissing, off gassing, white smoke, popping, heat buildup, disfigurement of battery case.

If safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire and call 9-1-1.

## Battery Disposal:

Bergen County Haz Mat will come out and assist the fire department and the homeowner. The home owner is responsible for the shipping back of the damaged and burned batteries in special designed packages .

- Recycle batteries by taking them to a battery recycling location or visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org) for disposal instructions. Please do not dispose of lithium-ion batteries in the trash or recycling.

Stores who sell the products will also be able to dispose of old batteries.