



## *Clean Community Office of Gloucester County*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Gloucester Clean Community Committee Announces Changes to Household Battery Recycling Program**

Increased costs have forced the Gloucester Clean Community Committee to make changes to the household battery recycling program.

Effective immediately, the program will no longer accept alkaline or zinc-carbon single-use household batteries for recycling. Alkaline and zinc-carbon batteries do not contain mercury and may be disposed of in regular household trash.

“Disposing of alkaline and zinc-carbon batteries in regular household trash is not the best alternative, but we are facing a forty-percent increase in processing fees. We simply do not have the budget to fund the increased cost of the program,” said Buzz Perkins, Gloucester Clean Community Committee chairperson.

Perkins said the Clean Community Committee had to make a choice between scaling back the program or dropping it entirely. “We looked at several options and decided that focusing on the most environmentally hazardous household batteries was the best course of action,” Perkins said.

The program will now recycle only Lithium and Lithium-Ion batteries, rechargeable household batteries (primarily NiCad and NiMH), and “button” batteries. Residents can drop those batteries off for recycling at either branch of the Gloucester County Public Library.

The Clean Community Committee and the Tidewater Soil and Water Conservation District have conducted the program since 2009 recycling almost 3 tons of household batteries.

Contact: Clean Community Office  
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*Keep Gloucester Clean and Green*