



Program Update: Environmental Handling Fees (EHFs) in British Columbia & Manitoba



BC and Manitoba both have provincial regulations around the end-of-life handling of certain products. The provincial regulations require the brand-owner or first-importer of products to participate in a stewardship plan in order to minimize that product's environmental impact.

As the approved battery stewardship organization in British Columbia, Manitoba, and Quebec, Call2Recycle Canada, Inc. works on behalf of these stakeholders to provide its battery recycling program, Call2Recycle®, to consumers across Canada.

About Call2Recycle Canada, Inc.

Call2Recycle Canada, Inc. is a not-for-profit, stewardship organization committed to the safe collection, transportation and recycling of consumer batteries across Canada. Our mission is and continues to be responsibly managing the end-of-life of batteries to keep them out of landfills and minimize environmental impact.

Over the past 20 years, we have learned that the best way to achieve this goal and encourage participation is by offering a robust, convenient program so that consumers can easily recycle their batteries.

Working in Partnership

Making our world a better place is a partnership amongst all of us. And we want to continue to work collaboratively with retailers to make this transition as smooth as possible. This includes attending and hosting past and future webinars, as well as continuing to provide informational point of sale materials such as rack cards and shelf talkers.

On the reverse side of this page are answers to frequently asked questions that will help your staff field consumer enquiries.

EHF Q&A:

1. What is an Environmental Handling Fee?

An Environmental Handling Fee, or EHF, is a charge on a product to handle the responsible collection and end-of-life management of that product.

2. There haven't been fees on batteries before, why now?

As part of our commitment to delivering an industry leading stewardship program we continually evaluate how we can do better. We've found that not only is this prudent financially to ensure our program can continue to operate at the highest standards, there is also research that suggests end users need to better understand the true cost of recycling in order to start changing their waste practices. This approach follows industry best practices and is consistent with other stewardship programs across select provinces.

3. How are the EHF's determined?

Fees are determined using a calculation that factors in the cost to manage the collection and responsible recycling of each battery, by specific type.

4. Who pays for the fees?

The fees are remitted by the obligated party (i.e. the first supplier into the province), which can be a retailer, wholesaler, distributor or manufacturer. It is left to the discretion of the obligated party to determine whether to pass along the fees to consumers. If passed along to consumers, the obligated party has the flexibility to make it visible or hidden, where a visible fee should be internalized.

5. What about batteries included in products like my phone and laptop?

At this time, the fiduciary and environmental responsibility of a battery sold in or with some products remains as is - with the rechargeable battery stewards under the existing fee structure.

6. What kind of batteries will be subject to an Environmental Handling Fee?

All stand-alone primary (single-use) batteries that are part of the Call2Recycle program are subject to an Environmental Handling Fee. These include the following single-use batteries:

- Alkaline
- Lithium Primary
- Silver Oxide
- Zinc Air
- Zinc Carbon
- Zinc Chloride

7. How much are the Environmental Handling Fees?

EHF Schedule: Primary (Single-Use) Batteries

Single-Use Type	BC	MB	QC
AA	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05
AAA	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.05
C	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.15
D	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.25
9V	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10
Button	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.04
Small Primary	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10
Medium Primary	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50
Large Primary	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.25

For more information about the Call2Recycle program, visit www.call2recycle.ca.