

Call2Recycle Canada, Inc. Environmental Handling Fees (EHFs) Frequently Asked Questions

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

Call2Recycle's mission is and continues to be responsibly managing the end-of-life of batteries to keep them out of landfills and minimize environmental impact. With over 20 years of experience, 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.

To enable us to continue running our program this way and implement continuous program enhancements, Call2Recycle implemented Environmental Handling Fees (EHF). To further harmonize the programs in British Columbia (BC), Manitoba (MB), and Quebec (QC), Call2Recycle Canada, Inc. will be introducing a new Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) schedule in those provinces, effective January 1, 2019. The EHF schedules will now include a fee reduction on primary batteries, the introduction of fees on rechargeable batteries in BC and MB, and fees on the previously postponed categories including batteries sold in or with construction and/or renovation tools and garden tools in MB.

Effective April 1, 2019, an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) schedule will be introduced in Prince Edward Island. The EHF schedule will include fees on primary and rechargeable batteries and products sold with batteries included.

General FAQs

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. Why does Call2Recycle apply Environmental Handling Fees (EHFs)?

Call2Recycle's 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 where consumers can easily recycle their batteries.

In order for us to continue to run our industry leading program and implement continuous program enhancements, we have made the decision to follow industry best practices and implement an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF). These actions will ensure our collection and recycling program remains sustainable while continuing to meet the highest environmental standards. Ultimately this change means that consumers will be able to continue to drop off batteries to be recycled.

3. There haven't been fees on rechargeable batteries in BC and MB 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.

4. There haven't been EHF on batteries in PEI before, why now?

Recently, the PEI government included consumer batteries to the list of regulated products. Call2Recycle now operates under an approved stewardship plan in the province. EHF's are used to fund the program and cover the cost associated with collection, transportation, processing, and marketing. This approach follows industry best practices and is consistent with Call2Recycle's stewardship programs in BC, MB, and QC.

5. Why is it important to recycle batteries?

Recycling batteries is important for a variety of reasons, for example it:

- Helps keep potentially harmful contaminants out of our landfill and waste stream
- Helps reduce the dependency of mining for virgin materials by capturing metals that can be reused into things such as golf clubs or even new batteries.

6. 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. EHF's may vary between provinces.

7. What about batteries included in products like my cellphone and laptop?

If the product is covered under another approved stewardship program, the responsibility for the end of life management of the batteries resides with the program responsible for the device.

8. What kind of batteries are subject to an Environmental Handling Fee?

All stand-alone batteries (batteries not sold with a product) that are part of the Call2Recycle program are subject to an Environmental Handling Fee. These include:

Rechargeable Batteries

- Lithium Ion
- Nickel Cadmium
- Nickel Metal Hydride
- Nickel Zinc
- Portable Power
- Small Sealed Lead Acid
(BC, MB and PEI Only)

Single-Use Batteries

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

In addition, in Quebec, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, fees may be applied to products containing single-use batteries, including the following:

- e-toys
- Construction/Renovation Tools
- Garden Tools
- Flashlights/Spotlights
- Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm

9. What is Call2Recycle's role?

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

10. 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, except in Quebec and Prince Edward Island where a visible fee should be internalized.

11. Will these fees be rolled out in other provinces?

At this time EHF's are only applied in Provinces where Call2Recycle operates under approved stewardship plans.

With support from battery and battery-powered product manufacturers, the Call2Recycle program is also administered in all other provinces making battery recycling accessible to residents in Newfoundland, Labrador, Nova Scotia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, among others.

12. How will the fee structure work?

The current fee schedule and newly introduced fee schedule for 2019 can be found [here](#).

13. How did Call2Recycle choose the new product categories?

The product categories were chosen based on the fact that the product category exists in other EPR programs and has a mass appeal/customer recognition.

14. Is there a tool available to help identify which products are subject to the new EHF?

Yes. Please refer to the updated Product Clarification Guide, which is available [here](#). If you have questions about the guide, please contact Call2Recycle at:

ProductGuideCanada@call2recycle.ca

15. Will Call2Recycle add additional product categories in the future?

In order to ensure both compliance with provincial regulation and the long-term financial stability of the Call2Recycle program, additional product categories may be introduced in the future.

Should additional product categories be introduced, Call2Recycle will follow the guiding principles of fairness, transparency, ease of implementation, as well as clear and timely communication.

16. Why do EHF's differ in different provinces?

Fees are calculated based on the cost to collect and manage batteries generated within each province. Given the regional differences (such as geography, population, location of collection sites and processors), program costs vary between provinces.

17. Why is there a rate reduction?

Call2Recycle calculated the initial EHF based on projected revenue of estimated sales. Since then, the program has realized greater efficiencies from operational enhancements, which has reduced its overall operating costs. Call2Recycle's intent is to ensure EHF's reflect the specific program costs for each province.

18. Why is there now an EHF on construction, renovation, and garden tools in MB?

In addition to MB regulation, batteries that power these tools are regularly showing up in Call2Recycle's program. To ensure these batteries can be properly managed at their end-of-life, and minimize any cross-subsidization from other products, a fee is necessary to cover recycling costs.

19. Why is an EHF applied to SSLA batteries in BC, PEI and MB but not QC?

Small sealed lead acid batteries (SSLA/Pb) are covered under Call2Recycle's program plans in BC and MB but not in QC.

20. Will rates change again?

Rates are subject to change and can be adjusted up or down.

21. Primary AA and AAA used to carry the same fee. What has changed?

Based on consultations and market research and given the size variance, Call2Recycle has determined that the fee should be adjusted.

22. What is a stand-alone battery?

A battery that is sold independent of a device or for replacement purposes.

23. If a product is sold with one or more bonus/extra stand-alone batteries, do the bonus/extra batteries carry a Call2Recycle EHF?

Yes, the bonus or extra stand-alone batteries must carry an EHF.

Obligation

24. I'm already a member in one province, how do I declare my obligation for other provinces?

As an existing member, please log into [GreenTrax](#) to declare your obligation for other provinces.

25. How can I find out if I am obligated?

To help determine whether your entity is the obligated party, please review the provincial regulations:

- [Manitoba Household Hazardous Material Regulation](#)
- [British Columbia Recycling Regulation](#)
- [Quebec Regulation Respecting the Recovery and Reclamation of Products by Enterprises.](#)
- [Prince Edward Island Environmental Protection Act Materials Stewardship and Recycling Regulation](#)



Leading the charge for recycling.™

- If you need further assistance, we encourage you to use the prepared decision tree found in our [GreenTrax Portal](#).

Registration & Reporting

26. How do I qualify become a small volume generator?

Information can be found in the [Rules and Policies](#).

27. When should I register?

As soon as possible, as EHF's are already in effect in BC, MB, and QC.

28. What if I sell or distribute small quantities into the province(s)?

Information can be found in the [Rules and Policies](#).

29. How do I report?

Upon registration as a Call2Recycle Canada Member, you will gain access to Call2Recycle's reporting portal, [GreenTrax](#).

30. How often do I need to report?

Reporting occurs monthly.

31. How should I register?

If you are a member in Quebec and wish to register for other jurisdictions, please visit our [GreenTrax reporting portal](#). If this is your first time registering with Call2Recycle Canada, Inc. please visit our [Member Registration page](#).

32. What if I want to report and remit sales on behalf of the obligated steward?

You may choose to enter into a [Contributor by Proxy Agreement](#). This proxy agreement, which is a voluntary agreement between two parties, will provide satisfactory evidence for Call2Recycle in the case that one party agrees to report data and remit sales on behalf of an obligated party.