

325E.1151 LEAD ACID BATTERY PURCHASE AND RETURN.

Subdivision 1. **Purchasers must return battery or pay \$5.** (a) A person who purchases a lead acid battery at retail, except a lead acid battery that is designed to provide power for a boat motor that is purchased at the same time as the battery, must:

- (1) return a lead acid battery to the retailer; or
- (2) pay the retailer a \$5 surcharge.

(b) A person who has paid a \$5 surcharge under paragraph (a) must receive a \$5 refund from the retailer if the person returns a lead acid battery with a receipt for the purchase of a new battery from that retailer within 30 days after purchasing a new lead acid battery.

(c) A retailer may keep the unrefunded surcharges for lead acid batteries not returned within 30 days.

Subd. 2. **Retailers must accept batteries.** (a) A person who sells lead acid batteries at retail must accept lead acid batteries from consumers and may not charge to receive the lead acid batteries. A consumer may not deliver more than five lead acid batteries to a retailer at one time.

(b) A retailer of lead acid batteries must recycle the lead acid batteries received from consumers.

(c) A retailer who violates paragraph (b) is guilty of a misdemeanor. Each lead acid battery that is not recycled is a separate violation.

Subd. 3. **Retailers must post notices.** (a) A person who sells lead acid batteries at retail must post the notice in paragraph (b) in a manner clearly visible to a consumer making purchasing decisions.

(b) The notice must be at least 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches and contain the universal recycling symbol and state:

"NOTICE: USED BATTERIES

This retailer is required to accept your used lead acid batteries, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT PURCHASE A BATTERY. When you purchase a new battery, you will be charged an additional \$5 unless you return a used battery within 30 days.

It is a crime to put a motor vehicle battery in the garbage."

Subd. 4. **Notices required in newspaper advertisements.** (a) An advertisement for sale of new lead acid batteries at retail in newspapers published in this state must contain the notice in paragraph (b).

(b) The notice must state:

"\$5 additional charge unless a used lead acid battery is returned. Improper disposal of a lead acid battery is a crime."

History: *1Sp1989 c 1 art 20 s 22; 1991 c 337 s 59; 1993 c 249 s 32*