

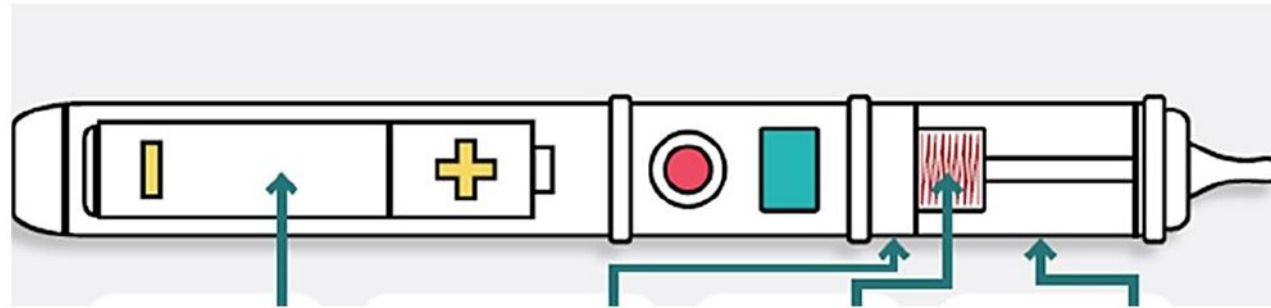
Disposal of E-Cigarettes

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E-cigarettes



THE BATTERY

It is a rechargeable lithium ion battery, which provides enough current to heat the atomizer to 400 degrees Fahrenheit in seconds.

THE SENSORS

E-cigarettes without a power button will turn on when the user inhales through it. E-cigarettes with or without a power button require sensors to turn on.

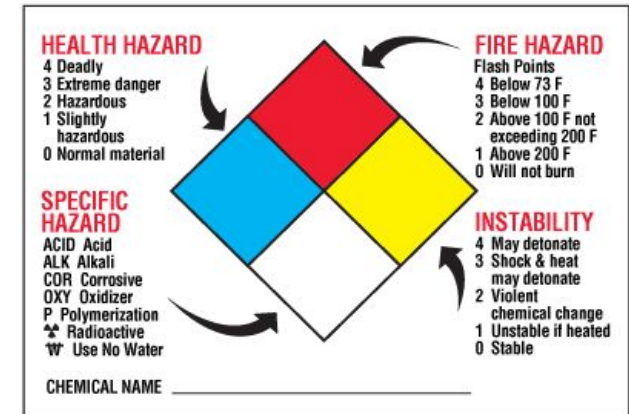
THE ATOMIZER

It is a coil that is a heating element which helps convert e-liquid to tiny airborne droplets (aerosol).

THE CARTRIDGE

This holds the e-liquid (substance). It comes prefilled or refillable. It is usually combined with an atomizer as one unit.

Liquid Nicotine



Hazardous Waster Code P075
Determined to be acutely toxic in 1980 and
affirmed 2019

Safe Storage

- The best practice is to store each e-cigarette in a separate plastic bag. Use a clear bag so that the contents are visible without opening.
- Multiple pods/cartridges for e-cigarettes may be stored together in one bag, but only if they are detached from the lithium battery component of the e-cigarette.
- E-cigarettes in their original packaging may be stored together without the use of plastic baggies.
- Store the bags in a larger, hard container. Mark the container as “Hazardous”
- Use protective gloves (e.g. nitrile or latex) when handling.
- Store in a safe location.



Safe Storage

- Fires caused by the lithium batteries in e-cigarettes is a common problem.
- If the batteries are separate from the confiscated e-cigarettes, place each battery in a separate plastic bag or tape the terminals with a separate plastic bag or tape the terminals with a non-conductive tape such as electrical tape, duct tape or packing tape. (Do not use masking tape, painter's tape or gift wrap tape.)
- A lithium battery that is bulging or leaking is damaged and likely dangerous and should be placed in a bucket of sand to prevent a fire.



Disposal

- Disposal of hazardous waste is regulated under the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).
- RCRA is a cradle-to-grave management of hazardous waste.
- MA DEP handles enforcement of hazardous waste disposal.
- In MA, the creation of 1 kg acute hazardous waste or less per month is classified as a Small Quantity Generator. (Residential waste is exempt.)
- Since the liquid nicotine in e-cigarettes is an acute hazardous waste, confiscated e-cigarettes must be managed along with the rest of a generator/site's hazardous waste.

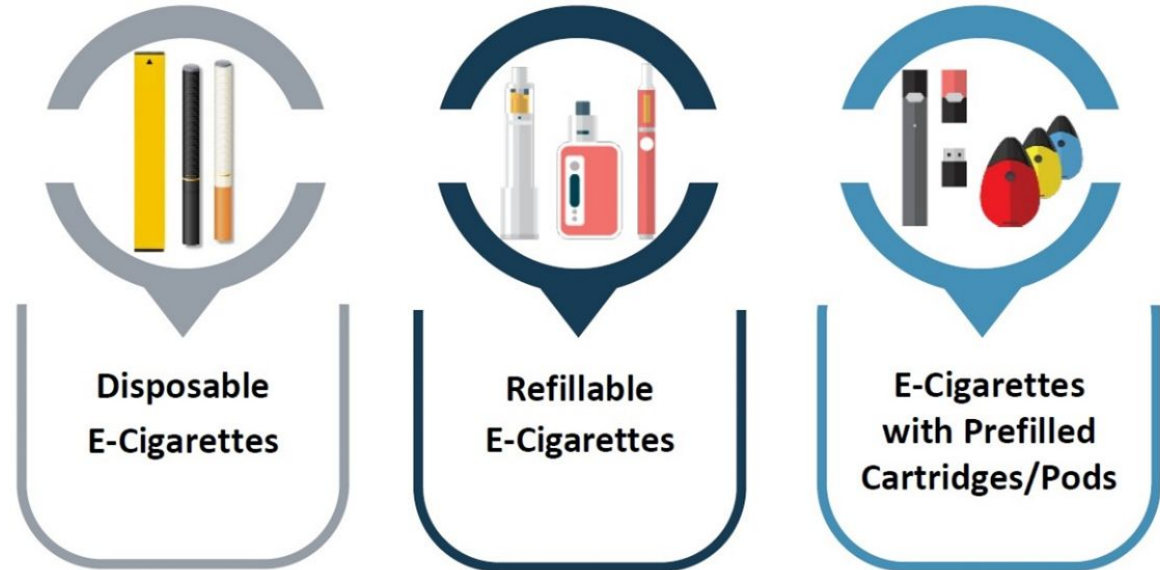


Disposal

- A licensed disposal company must be used to dispose of e-cigarettes.
- Check with your municipality's department of public works, police station or the school system. One or more of these departments is probably licensed with the state. Here's a list.

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/hazardous-waste-generation-generators>.

- Do not try to separate the portion of the e-cigarette containing the liquid nicotine, except for brands with detachable pods/cartridges.
- When safely separated, the lithium battery can be recycled at battery recycling site.



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