

# SAFETY TIPS

## Lithium Ion Batteries

Lithium ion batteries have become a common sources of power for computers, telephones, automobiles, and children's toys. Usually they are safe to use and unlikely to fail. However, in December 2021, a lithium ion battery charger was the probably of a residential fire in Fox River Grove. The following information from OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, can help us safely use these batteries.

Fires and injuries from lithium battery defects or damage are preventable. Keep in mind these safety tips:

- Ensure lithium batteries, chargers, and associated equipment are tested in accordance with an appropriate test standard (e.g., UL 2054) and, where applicable, certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL), and are rated for their intended uses.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for storage, use, charging, and maintenance.
- When replacing batteries and chargers for an electronic device, ensure they are specifically designed and approved for use with the device and they are purchased from the device's manufacturer or a manufacturer authorized reseller.
- Remove lithium-powered devices and batteries from the charger once they are fully charged.
- Store lithium batteries and devices in dry, cool locations.
- Avoid damaging lithium batteries and devices. Inspect them for signs of damage, such as bulging/cracking, hissing, leaking, rising temperature, and smoking before use, especially if they are wearable. Immediately remove a device or battery from service and place it in an area away from flammable materials if any of these signs are present.
- If batteries are damaged, remove them from service.



For more information about lithium ion battery safety, you can consult the following website:

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/shib011819.pdf>