



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jorge Gonzalez, City Manager
FROM: Jerry Libbin, Commissioner *jel*
DATE: November 23, 2009
SUBJECT: Agenda item for December 9, 2009
referral to Sustainability committee

Please place on the December 9, 2009 agenda a referral to the Sustainability committee a discussion regarding a proposal from Eco Batt to establish a collection site for old batteries throughout the city.

You may contact my office at ext. 7106 if you have any questions.

JL/sm

attachment

NOV 23 2009
10:00 AM
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Agenda Item C4C
Date 12-9-09



FACTS

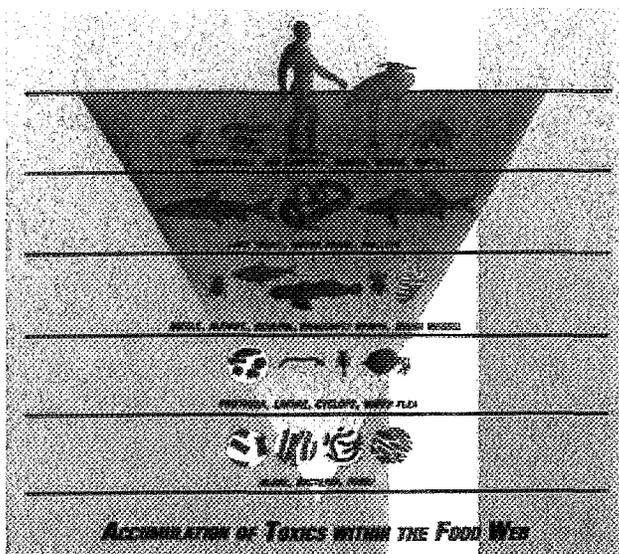
Because of the heavy metals and toxic substances that power batteries, the EPA categorizes certain batteries as household hazardous waste (HHW) when they are no longer useful.

Usually batteries that are not recycled and disposed properly often wind up in landfills with the risk of liberating components that finally get through the food chain to the human being.

An estimate of a family of 4 people uses 72 batteries a year, approximately, 18 units per person, which is the equivalent to 310 grams of battery per person a year.

If United States has 307 million inhabitants approximately, we would be talking of around 95.000 Tons per year.

The mercury found in only one battery can contaminate 600.000 liters of water.



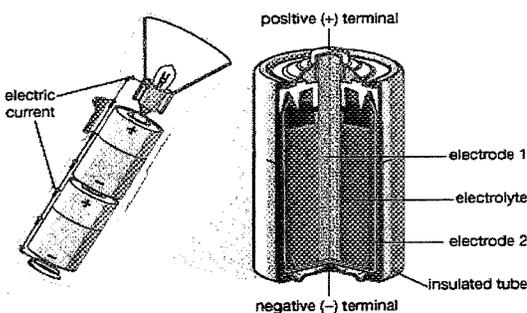


DESCRIPTION

The project involves the assembly of a self-sustaining system that allows, through the strategic location of containers specially constructed for this purpose to the collection of batteries and electronic devices worn, outdated or not functional, to prevent pollution of our environment with their waste and toxic components, which then would be reused.

INTRODUCTION

Battery recycling is becoming more important each year as Americans purchase billions of batteries to power remote controls, smoke detectors, flashlights and toys.



Government findings indicate that used batteries have the potential to become mayor pollutants to our water and air, if disposed improperly.



THE SELF-SUSTAINING SYSTEM

