

Here's a solution for battery disposal

Mon Mar 31, 2008

To the editor:

Concern has rightly been expressed over the disposal in landfills of fluorescent light bulbs, etc. Their content of mercury and other heavy metals poses a serious threat to the environment and particularly to our health.

There will be a major increase in use of these bulbs and batteries associated with energy reduction measures in the months ahead. Per household however, the volume discarded will be small.

It goes against human nature to expect individuals to go to specified disposal areas using their cars to dispose of a few pounds weight of such waste. Most will continue to dispose of bulbs and batteries in the landfill trash.

The solution rests with the municipalities to accept such hazardous waste in the blue box system. Perhaps in clear plastic bags, and sort this dangerous waste at the sorting depot. Any other solution is, I believe, wishful thinking on the part of our elected officials.

Incidentally, if we move to incineration of garbage, the effect of lead and mercury would be much worse.

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