Lithium-Ion Batteries John Collins USCG Aux District 1N, Div 4 SO-PE

Lithium-ion batteries are used extensively in cell phones, cameras, computers, and other equipment, and are increasingly found in marine applications, including propulsion systems. The proliferation of these energy sources presents some risk, however. Auto-ignition of lithium-ion batteries have been reported throughout all modes of transportation and have the potential to start larger fires. Devices with lithium-ion batteries should not be left unattended, particularly while charging, and you should develop procedures for the storage and emergency disposal of such batteries.

Lithium-ion batteries contain a variety of chemicals. Improper disposal has significant consequences, such as environmental pollution and loss of (material) resources. They contain rare earth elements that can be recycled. Do not throw them out with the trash. Rather, bring them to a recycling place like Home Depot and Lowe's. Cover the ends of the battery with tape to eliminate a fire hazard.