

**Mechanicsburg Environmental Advisory Committee  
Recycling Advisory Subcommittee  
Minutes  
January 7, 2008**

**Present:** Coordinator Glenda Boyer, Borough Councilman Charlie Ryder, Committee Member Cese Viti and guest John Marino, Mechanicsburg.

**New Business:**

Guest John Marino presented his ideas for recycling specific batteries that represent bio hazards when disposed of in landfills or when incinerated.

He asked for the Committee's help to accomplish two goals:

1. to educate the public on which batteries are hazardous
2. to locate or to design a program to collect these batteries and to devise an easy method for householders to participate in their recycling

For example, a business in town has expressed an interest in hearing more about the possibility of providing a drop off place for hazardous batteries. Also, battery vendors like Batteries Plus and Battery Warehouse, among others, will recycle the batteries.

Marino's preliminary findings indicate

1. that household alkaline batteries (AAA, AA, C and D) present no hazard to the environment.
2. that three other types do present a hazard and should be disposed of properly.

Type 1: **nichol-cadmium battery** found in portable phones, cell phones and power tools

Type 2: **nichol-metal hydride battery** found in cameras and laptops

Type 3: **lithium-ion battery** found in watches and hearing aids

Marino further suggested the "Ask Igean" button on the site *Local Government Environmental Assistance Network* [www.lgean.org](http://www.lgean.org) as a resource for further information.

The committee feels that this project would be good as a fund raiser, perhaps for the Mechanicsburg Adult Environment Club. Viti will approach the club with the idea at their organization meeting Tuesday January 8.

A copy of the minutes will be forwarded to Tom Imphong of Cumberland County Recycling and Waste Authority.

**Old Business:**

Boyer reported that the transition from the old trash contract to the new contract with a 4-bag limit went relatively smoothly with only a few complaints and queries.

Next meeting: Tue. Feb. 5 at 5:30 pm