



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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9 Volt Battery Safety

9 Volt Battery Facts:

9 volt batteries can be a fire hazard if not stored properly and disposed of with care.

9-volt batteries can be dangerous. The positive and negative posts are close together. If a metal object touches the two posts of a 9-volt battery, it can cause a short circuit. This can make enough heat to start a fire.

Fires from loose 9-volt batteries have been reported across the country, from Colorado to Kansas and New Hampshire.

Safety Tips

- Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent the posts from coming in contact with metal objects.

- Items such as keys, aluminum foil, and steel wool should never be kept near 9-volt batteries. If one of these items touches both battery posts, there is an even greater risk of a fire starting.



- Keep them someplace safe where they won't be tossed around.
- Store batteries standing up.
- 9-volt batteries should not be stored loose in a drawer. Do not store them in containers with other batteries.

For Disposal Remember

- 9-volt batteries should not be thrown away with trash. They can come in contact with other batteries or pieces of metal which can cause a fire in the trash.
- 9-volt batteries can be taken to a collection site for household hazardous waste.
- To be safe, cover the positive and negative posts with a battery post cover before getting rid of batteries.
- Some states do not allow any type of battery to be disposed of with trash. Check with your city or town for the best way to get rid of batteries.

National Fire Protection Association

<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/9VoltBatterySafety>

Solve the Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is "Good afternoon" and LINE READ LINE is "Read between the lines."

O	Resort
R	Resort
D	Resort ←
E	
R	

Answers to last month's wuzzles are think outside the box and underdog.

Fire Safety Quiz

- It is okay to just toss a 9 volt battery in the trash.
 - True
 - False
- The best place to store a 9 volt battery is
 - In a junk drawer.
 - In the original package.
 - In the freezer.
 - None of the above.

Answers to last month's quiz are 1. A. & 2. D.

Man is the only creature that dares to light a fire and live with it. The reason? Because he alone has learned to put it out. ~Henry Jackson Vandyke, Jr.

It may seem ironic that the batteries we use in our smoke alarms could cause a potential hazard, but regardless of the use homeowners should take care to follow simple safety precautions.

Weak batteries may have enough charge left to start a fire. Do not assume that a battery is completely drained of its charge because it no longer appears to power a smoke alarm or a toy. Use precaution with disposal.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Ms. Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to:

valdostafire@valdostacity.com



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief