

Vape Waste: A Hidden Fire Hazard in Our Trash

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Material Management Perspective

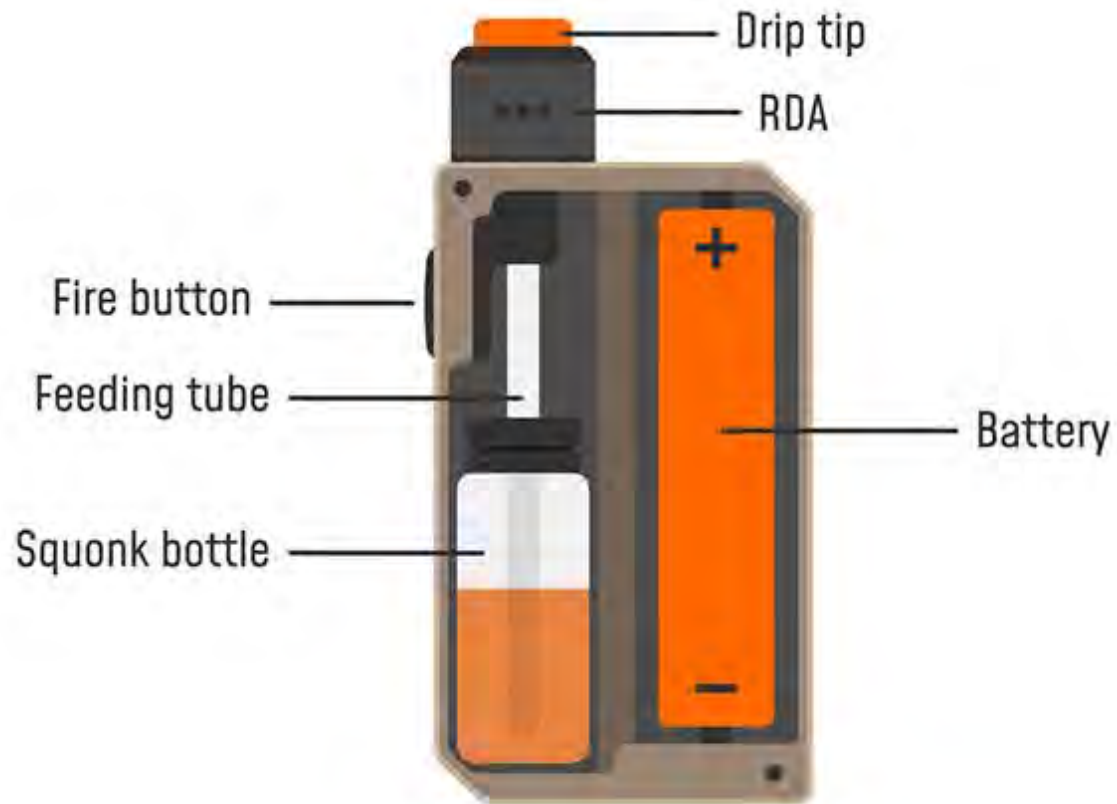


Material Management Nightmare



What waste stream do these hoodies go in?

Common Denominator

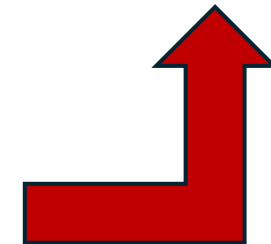


Plastic casing, **toxic liquid, battery**

Causes of Thermal Runaway



Waste Stream Conditions: compactors,
front loaders, shredders, heavy equipment







This is not a Fire.
This is a Thermal
Run Away



**Vapes in the
waste stream
can cause fires on
waste trucks.**





Shelton, Connecticut - Material Recovery Facility, March 2023



18 Fire Departments Responded

- **Monroe**
- **Stratford**
- **Ansonia**
- **Bethany**
- **Seymour**
- **Derby**
- **Orange**
- **Trumbull**
- **Oxford**
- **Beacon Falls**
- **Prospect**
- **Ridgefield**
- **Woodridge**
- **Redding**



The battery thermal run-away resulted in a complete loss.



- **HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS.**

- **HEAVY METALS.**

- **"ENDOCRINE-DISRUPTING PLASTICS."**

HARMLESS?

**VAPES ARE
TRASH.**

www.vapesaretrash.org

How to Safely Dispose of E-Cigarettes: Information for Individuals

On this page:

- [Do NOT put e-cigarettes in your household trash or recycling](#)
- [DO take e-cigarettes to your household hazardous waste collection site](#)
- [E-cigarettes contain nicotine and lithium batteries](#)
- [Benefits of household hazardous waste collection](#)
- [Printable fact sheet](#)



For guidance for schools and small businesses, check out our webpage [How to Safely Dispose of E-Cigarettes: Information for Schools and Small Businesses.](#)

Don't Trash

Don't Recycle

Just don't Use Vapes