

Smoke Detector Disposal Information

The most common type of smoke detector used in residential homes contains a minute amount of radioactive material*. Although the amount of radioactive material contained in these detectors is so small that it does not pose a risk to human health, some localities, including Santa Barbara, do not allow them to be disposed of with municipal waste. In this case, smoke detectors that contain radioactive material can be returned to the manufacturer for disposal. When returning a smoke detector to the manufacturer, include a note that indicates that the detector is intended for disposal and mail it to the address listed on the back of the detector.

The following manufacturers/distributors of smoke detectors will take back smoke detectors that they manufacture:

MANUFACTURER/ DISTRIBUTOR	PHONE NUMBER	ADDRESS FOR RETURN	NOTES
FIRST ALERT/ BRK/FAMILY GUARD	(800) 323-9005 ext. 2	Please call ahead for mailing instructions.	Accepts First Alert/BRK, and Family Guard brands of smoke detectors for a fee of \$1.00 each. Website addresses: www.FirstAlert.com and www.BRKElectronics.com
HONEYWELL	(800) 328-5111 ext. 4	Returned Goods, Honeywell Inc. Dock 4-MN10-3860 1985 Douglas Drive Golden Valley, MN 55422	Accepts Honeywell smoke detectors only. Website address: www.customer.honeywell.com
SYSTEM SENSORS	(800) 736-7672 ext. 1	Call to receive a reference number and return information.	Will accept "System Sensor" brand only. Please include a payment of \$3.00 for each smoke detector mailed to cover the firm's recycling costs.
USI ELECTRIC/ UNIVERSAL	(800) 390-4321 ext. 238	Attention: Disposal Department 11407 Cronhill Drive, Suite A Owings Mills, MD 21117	Return only detectors that say "ionization" on the back. Only USI Electric or Universal brand smoke detectors accepted. Please enclose a note that indicates that the smoke detector is being returned for recycling. Website address: www.USIElectric.com

*Ionization type smoke detectors contain Americium 241. Photoelectric type detectors do not contain radioactive material.

The following company also accepts ionization-type smoke detectors for recycling:

Curie Environmental Services, LLC

4020 Vassar Drive, NE, Suite D

Albuquerque, NM 87107

(505) 888-9392

Fax: (866) 671-4458

<http://www.curieservices.com/>

E-mail: info@curieservices.com

For a fee of \$8.00 per smoke detector, this company accepts ionization smoke detectors from households for recycling. Consumers should contact the company to obtain shipping information and to prepay. For larger amounts, it also offers the CuriePack, which includes a shipping box, a yellow five-gallon plastic container to hold the smoke detectors, complete packaging instructions, and a prepaid United Parcel Service shipping label. The container can hold up to 25 smoke detectors. Even larger containers are available for commercial/industrial customers.