Lithium-ion batteries can be found in cell phones, tablets, laptops, electric bikes and scooters, toothbrushes, and backup batteries, along with other regularly used devices. Damaged or defective batteries can cause fires. Learn how to spot a problem.

**Signs of a Battery Problem**

1. Change in the battery color
2. Sweet electrical burning odor emitted from the battery
3. Noises or leaking coming from the battery
4. Change in the battery or device shape
5. Smoke coming from battery
6. If safe to do so, move suspected damaged or defective batteries or devices to an area away from structures or into fireproof containers

**What to do if a Battery Fire Occurs**

1. A damaged battery may release toxic gas that may not be visible and can be deadly even in small amounts.
2. Evacuate the area as batteries can explode.
3. Alert others of the battery fire.
4. Call 911 and notify them of the battery fire.

**What to do With a Damaged Battery**

1. Batteries should only be recycled at approved battery recycling drop-off locations. Damaged, defective, or recalled batteries require special attention. Visit Call2Recycle for more information; www.call2recycle.org/safety/damaged-defective-and-recalled-batteries
2. Damaged batteries should be handled with care. Keep batteries segregated from other materials.
3. Never place batteries in regular waste and recycling bins; they will likely catch fire.