

Overview of EPA Requirements for Disposal of Refrigerant- Containing Equipment

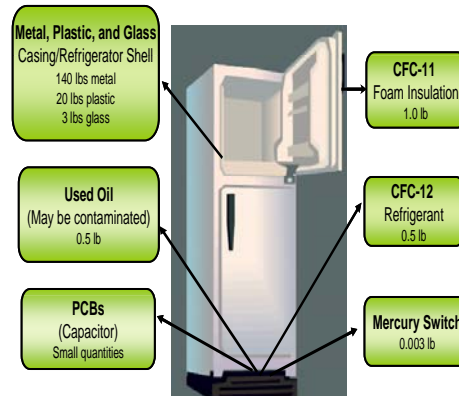
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What's required prior to disposal/recycling?

- Clean Air Act prohibits intentionally venting refrigerant when disposing of refrigeration and AC equipment (40 CFR Part 82 Subpart F)
 - *Why?* Most refrigerants used in U.S today are ozone-depleting and/or contribute to climate change
- Resource Conservation & Recovery Act and Toxic Substances Control Act require proper management and storage of universal waste (e.g., mercury), used oil, and PCBs (40 CFR Parts 273, 279, 761)

A Single Refrigerator Manufactured Prior to 1995 Typically Has...



What is refrigerant recovery?

- Use EPA-certified recovery equipment (check AHRI or UL list)
- Certify your ownership of recovery equipment to EPA Regional office
- Technician certification may be required, depending on refrigeration/AC equipment type



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Requirements: Refrigeration/AC Equipment Dismantled On-Site

- Technician certification is required for recovery
- Keep copy of technician certification at place of business
- If no in-house certified technicians are available, hire refrigerant recovery service



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Requirements: Small Appliances

- Generally enter waste stream with charge intact
- Technician certification not required
- Final person in disposal chain must:
 - recover remaining refrigerant; OR
 - verify signed statement from person from whom appliance is received that refrigerant has been properly recovered previously
- Keep copies of signed statement for at least 3 years



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Really, why shouldn't I just vent refrigerant?

- It is illegal,
- It is harmful, *and...*
- You can make \$\$\$ by selling recovered refrigerant to an EPA-certified reclaimer
 - EPA has banned manufacture and import of CFCs, but not use
 - Market for recycled refrigerant depends on refrigerant volume and type
 - Reclaimer: reprocesses refrigerant and verifies it has been returned to purity level specified in ARI 700

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