



Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency
Recycling Outreach Team



Safe Disposal of Refrigerant-Containing Appliances

Did you know that **freon appliances** like **refrigerators**, **freezers**, **dehumidifiers**, and **air conditioners** may contain chemicals that are harmful to the ozone layer and can be very powerful greenhouse gases?



What is Freon?

“Freon” is a trademark name that has been used to refer to several different **refrigerants**, including chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs*) ex. *CFC-12*, hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs*) ex. *HCFC-22*, which is often referred to as “*R-22*,” and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

Why are Refrigerants Harmful?

Refrigerants are typically emitted in small quantities, but because they are potent greenhouse gases, they are also referred to as **High Global Warming Potential Gases**.

HFCs have **1,000 to 9,000 times the capacity to warm the atmosphere than carbon dioxide**. The release of refrigerants into the environment during production, leakages in existing appliances/equipment, and improper end-of-life disposal of appliances all contribute to **climate change**².

*CFCs are ozone-depleting substances and have been phased out under the **Montreal Protocol** and HCFCs are currently being phased out.

1 - Environmental Protection Agency
2 - Project Drawdown by Paul Hawken

Refrigerant-Containing Appliance Disposal Guide

Refrigerant-containing appliances must be properly disposed of at end of life to ensure the refrigerants are properly recovered and reclaimed or destroyed.

Town Transfer Stations

Many **Town Transfer Stations** (also known as *Municipal Recycling Drop Centers*) accept hard-to-recycle items, like Freon appliances.

Access to these services can require purchasing an annual permit for a fee. Please contact your local transfer station to verify hours, fees, and accepted items before visiting.

Scrap Metal Facilities

West Kingston Recycling in Kingston
(845) 331-3312

CANOS Recycling in Saugerties
(845) 331-7600

A. Messina & Sons Scrap Metal Recycling in Gardiner (845) 883-6543

*Please contact these facilities for more information.



UCRRA

UCRRA accepts freon appliances. A minimum fee of \$20 applies to all transactions, plus an additional \$20 fee per Freon appliance.

Due to this, UCRRA may be a good option when you have additional trash for disposal. Please note our *Vehicle Policy* and *Tarp Policy*.

For more information, visit www.ucrra.org/about-us/fee-schedule/

When in doubt, find out!



www.ucrra.org/recyclopedia/

UCRRA's **Recyclopedia** is a search tool that gives instructions on how to reduce, reuse, and recycle **150+ common home items.**

