



The Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act requires refrigerants to be recovered prior to disposal of all refrigerant-containing appliances. Refrigerant-containing appliances are considered "Small Appliances" if they contain less than 5 pounds of refrigerant.

### Examples of Small Appliances include:

- Refrigerators and freezers (designed for home, commercial, or consumer use)
- Medical or industrial research equipment
- Room air conditioners (including window air conditioners, portable air conditioners, and packaged terminal air conditioners)
- Packaged terminal heat pumps
- Dehumidifiers
- Under-the-counter ice makers
- Vending machines
- Drinking water coolers

### Please follow this procedure to dispose a small appliance:

1. If the small appliance was used for research purposes, then the appliance must be decontaminated before disposal
  - Contact the Office of Research Safety (ORS) for assistance on decontamination ([researchsafety@uchicago.edu](mailto:researchsafety@uchicago.edu) / 773.834.2707)
  - Documentation, such as a tag or certificate, indicating ORS has completed the decontamination must be affixed to the appliance
2. Notify your Facility Manager to request assistance for disposing the small appliance:
  - The Facility Manager will submit a work request for a Certified Technician to recover the refrigerant from the small appliance
  - The Certified Technician will affix a refrigerant recovery form to the small appliance after they recover the refrigerant
3. Notify your Facility Manager to arrange for removal of the small appliance from your work area.

**Note:** Ownership of small appliances can be transferred, such as when selling or donating, without recovering the refrigerant IF the small appliance is functional, not leaking refrigerant, and manufactured after 1983. Please contact Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) for further guidance.