# IT MAY BE TIME TO CONSIDER A RETROFIT OR REPLACEMENT



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With the EPA phasing out R-22 refrigerant, we want to be sure you fully understand the short and long-term effects on your air-conditioning system.

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# HCFC-22 aka R-22

For more than four decades, R-22 has been used in residential/commercial air conditioning systems as a refrigerant. **Unfortunately, R-22 contributes to ozone depletion and speeds up global warming.** For this reason, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is phasing R-22 out.

### **PHASEOUT SCHEDULE**

## **January 1, 2010**

Virgin R-22 may not be used in new equipment. As a result, HVAC system manufacturers may not produce new air conditioners and heat pumps containing R-22 (including replacement parts for existing R-22 systems).

# January 1, 2020

Chemical manufacturers will no longer be able to produce R-22 refrigerant. Only R-22 that has been recovered/recycled will be allowed to service existing systems beyond 2020.

### **SERVICING EXISTING R-22 SYSTEMS**

There is no EPA requirement to change or convert existing R-22 systems. However, the parts and refrigerant for R-22 systems are limited to existing stocks, which will become more expensive and harder to come by.

### **ALTERNATIVE REFRIGERANTS**

The leading substitute for R-22 is R-410A, an ozone-friendly blend of hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs). Another alternative is R-407C.

### **CHANGING OVER TO R-410A**

# R-410A refrigerant:

- Does not contribute to ozone layer depletion
- Is a type of refrigerant that can earn you a point in LEED certification (R-134A, R-407C and R-410A are all considered "green" refrigerants)
- Is more energy-efficient. Products with the EPA's Energy Star label can save owners 10 40% on their cooling bills every year.

### **INSTALLING NEW NON-R-22 SYSTEMS**

New ozone-friendly systems require compressors and other components specifically designed for use with ozone-friendly replacement refrigerants. If a new outdoor unit (condenser) is installed, it is likely that a new indoor unit (evaporator) will also be required. R-410A is not recommended in retrofits due to its higher pressures, oil incompatibility, and different pipe sizes. It also won't work well without changing out some system components.

Whether you're considering replacing an old system or installing a new one, call our AC Service Department at **(808) 834-4242**.

We're happy to help!

