

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program - Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Program

Glossary of Terms

- **CFC-11**

This chlorofluorocarbon was used as a blowing agent for polyurethane foam insulation for refrigerators and freezers manufactured between 1965 and 1993.

- **CFC-12**

Commonly known by its trade name Freon,[®] this chlorofluorocarbon was used as a refrigerant in the sealed cooling system for units manufactured before 1993. Both CFC-11 and CFC-12 are extreme ozone depleters with high global warming potential.

- **HFC-134a**

Hydrofluorocarbon replaced CFC-12 as the refrigerant after 1993, in accordance with the U.S. schedule for phase-out under the guidelines of the Montreal Protocol. This chemical is non-ozone depleting, but is still a global warmer.

- **HCFC-141b**

Hydrochlorofluorocarbon replaced CFC-11 as the blowing agent for polyurethane foam insulation for units manufactured after 1993.

- **PCBs**

Polychlorinated Biphenyls are hazardous materials sometimes found in starting capacitors of large refrigerators and freezers manufactured before 1979, when PCBs were banned.

- **ABS**

Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene is a flexible molded plastic commonly used for interior linings of appliances and for shelves and drawers.

- **HIPS**

High Impact Polystyrene is also used for the same purpose of ABS but is about 50 percent less expensive.

- **LEXAN[®]**

Lexan is a trade name for a clear or tinted plastic used for drawers in high-end model refrigerators.

