

Washington State’s Final Regulations: Refrigerant Management Program Fact Sheet* for Supermarket End-Users (Commercial HVACR)

Applies To:

- Facility owner/operators with at least one HVACR appliance with full charge of 50+ lbs. of a high-GWP refrigerant (150+ GWP).

Requirements for all HVACR appliances with a full charge of 50+ lbs. of a high-GWP refrigerant (150+ GWP) beginning 1/1/24:

- **Recordkeeping:** Required recordkeeping for all appliances. Must keep records for 5 years.
- **Leak Repair:** Leaks must be repaired within 14 days of initial detection, including all verification tests. If repair attempt is made and verification tests fail, 14-day extension to complete the repair is given. If leak still can't be repaired, system must be retrofitted or retired. Retrofit or retirement plan must be completed within 6 months. Note: As of 1/1/29 retrofitting to a refrigerant with a GWP > 150 (refrigeration) or GWP > 750 (HVAC) is prohibited.

Requirements phased in based on the full charge size of the appliance:

- **Mandatory Whole Appliance Leak Inspections**

Appliance Full Charge Size	Frequency of Periodic Leak Inspections ¹	Effective Date
1500+ lbs. (large)	Monthly	1/1/24
200 < 1500 lbs. (medium)	Every 3 months	1/1/26
50 < 200 lbs. (small)	Yearly	1/1/28

¹ Portions of appliances enclosed in a building & continuously monitored by an annually audited/calibrated ALDS are exempt.
 ○ Must also be conducted after the leak is repaired as part of both the initial and follow-up verification tests; each time refrigerant is added; each time oil residue is observed; and within 24 hours of receiving an ALDS alert.

- **Leak Rate Thresholds and Notifications to Ecology:** Leak rate must be calculated using Washington’s 12-month rolling average method each time a leak inspection is conducted and each time refrigerant is added to an appliance (lbs. of refrigerant added over past 365 days/full charge size x 100). *Notifications must be submitted to Ecology within 30 days of exceeding the leak rate threshold. As long as you continue to have a leak rate above the threshold, Ecology must be notified each time refrigerant is added.* Effective 1/1/24 for large appliances, 1/1/26 for medium appliances, and 1/1/28 for small appliances.

End Use	Leak Rate Threshold
Commercial Refrigeration (Cold Storage Warehouse & Retail Food Refrigeration)	16%
Air Conditioning	8%
Industrial Process Refrigeration (includes Data Center & Computer Room Cooling)	24%

Registration Requirements and Fees:

- Registration required based on the charge size of the largest regulated appliance at the facility. At time of registration, all regulated appliances at the facility must be included (all appliances with a full charge size of 50+ lbs. of a high-GWP refrigerant).

Appliance Full Charge Size	Registration Deadline ¹	Fees (per facility)
1500+ lbs. (large)	3/15/24	\$150 one-time fee; \$370 annual fee
200 < 1500 lbs. (medium)	3/15/26	\$170 annual fee
50 < 200 lbs. (small)	3/15/28	None

¹ After the applicable registration deadline, new facilities must be registered within 3 months of the first regulated appliance beginning operation.

Annual Reporting Requirements:

Appliance Full Charge Size	Annual Report Deadline
1500+ lbs. (large)	3/15/25
200 < 1500 lbs. (medium)	3/15/27
50 < 200 lbs. (small)	N/A

Mandatory Automatic Leak Detection Systems (ALDS):

- Required for refrigeration appliances with a full charge of 1500+ lbs. of a high-GWP refrigerant starting on 1/1/25.

* This fact sheet is a summary of very complex and lengthy regulations and is based on the initial reading of the final rule. As our understanding improves, we will refine the fact sheet. It focuses on HVACR equipment commonly found in supermarkets. This fact sheet is not meant to be a substitute for reading the regulatory text.