



## GreenChill's Corporate Emissions Reduction Program: An Overview for Prospective Food Retail Partners

### What is GreenChill?

EPA's GreenChill Corporate Emissions Reduction Program is a voluntary partnership with the food retail industry to reduce refrigerant emissions and decrease Partners' impact on the [ozone layer](#) and climate system. GreenChill has three primary programs:

1. [Corporate Emissions Reduction Program \(the "Partnership"\)](#): Partners with food retailers, refrigeration system manufacturers, and chemical producers to reduce refrigerant emissions.
2. [Store Certification Program](#): Recognizes individual stores for using environmentally friendlier commercial refrigeration systems. *This Program is distinct from the Partnership and is not addressed in this document. While it is not a requirement, many companies participate in both GreenChill programs. For more information please visit the [GreenChill Store Certification Center](#).*
3. [Advanced Refrigeration Promotion Program](#): Promotes advanced refrigeration technologies, strategies, and practices through social media, webinars, and guidelines.

### Who can join the Partnership?

The GreenChill Partnership focuses on food retailers including supermarkets, grocery stores, co-ops, supercenters, and wholesale clubs. To be eligible to join the Partnership, a food retailer must:

- Be willing to reduce company-wide refrigerant emissions.
- Have no current Clean Air Act enforcement issues.

### Why should my company become a GreenChill Partner?

There are many benefits to joining and participating in the GreenChill Partnership, including:

- **Protect the Environment, Save Money.** Refrigerant leaks harm the ozone layer and contribute to climate change. In addition, refrigerant leaks can have a costly impact on a company's bottom line because the amount of refrigerant leaked from a commercial refrigeration system eventually needs to be replaced. Leaky systems also require maintenance and repairs that could come at a high cost over time. For a typical U.S. food retail store, reducing its annual emissions rate to the GreenChill Partnership average could save an estimated \$4,000 in annual refrigerant replacement costs and reduce emissions by more than 750 metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent and 5 ozone depletion potential pounds. These emissions are equivalent to the carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity use of more than 120 homes in one year.
- **Receive Analytical Support.** GreenChill provides each Partner a customized data report that helps them interpret their refrigerant management performance relative to their peers honoring

confidentiality. Many Partners identify this as the most valuable aspect of participating in GreenChill.

- **Access Best Practices.** GreenChill provides a forum for Partners to share information and best practices on a variety of topics including reducing refrigerant replacement costs, lowering refrigeration system maintenance and repair expenses, utilizing new systems types and new refrigerants for new construction or remodeling projects, strategies for working with service contractors and system installation, ensuring leak-tightness, and other topics. GreenChill's [best practice guidelines](#) and [webinar series](#) share current information.
- **Earn Recognition.** GreenChill has an [annual ceremony](#), at which EPA recognizes Partners for their achievements over the past year, such as reducing emissions rates over time and for achieving low emissions rates in a given year. A list of previous recipients is available on the [GreenChill website](#).



## What does being a Partner entail?

Partner responsibilities are identified in the GreenChill Partnership Agreement.

Reporting data to the Program is one of the core Partner responsibilities. These submissions provide the basis for many of the categories recognized at the annual ceremony. Partners are expected to submit the following to GreenChill on an annual basis:

- A **data report** from the previous year of the total amount of refrigerant installed and emitted from commercial refrigeration systems across the company. Reports should include installed refrigerant for commercial refrigeration systems with a charge of  $\geq 50$  pounds of refrigerant; installed refrigerant for smaller self-contained equipment and air conditioning systems is optional, but encouraged. Data should be the aggregate from across the company; not a specific store.
- A **refrigerant management plan** for the coming year. In their refrigerant management plan, Partners submit a commercial refrigeration systems emissions rate goal for systems with a charge of  $\geq 50$  pounds of refrigerant.

Partners are also encouraged to participate in a variety of other activities, including:

- **Public webinars** on wide ranging issues related to supermarket refrigeration systems such as new technologies being utilized, market trends, regulatory updates, and case studies.
- **Quarterly Partner meetings** to learn about program updates, applicable EPA rules and regulations, and upcoming or past events and activities.
- Periodic **Partner-only roundtables**, where companies discuss refrigeration challenges they face and share ideas for addressing them.
- Occasional **collaborative efforts**, such as developing [GreenChill best practices guides and providing information for program outreach and communication materials \(e.g., case studies, fact sheets, progress reports\)](#).

## How can my company join?

Joining the GreenChill Corporate Emissions Reduction Program involves several steps:



1. Review the Partnership packet, containing a standard GreenChill Partnership Agreement, sample Partnership materials, and other details about becoming a Partner.
2. Sign the Partnership Agreement, which outlines your company's goals and responsibilities under GreenChill.
3. EPA will review your company's eligibility to join\* and countersign the Partnership Agreement.
4. Congratulations, you are now a GreenChill Partner!

## What sample materials are available?

Partnership Agreement

Data Reporting Form

Refrigerant Management Plan

Partner Report

## Where can I find additional information?

For more information about joining the GreenChill Partnership visit the [GreenChill website](#) or contact GreenChill at [GreenChill@epa.gov](mailto:GreenChill@epa.gov).

\* EPA will conduct an enforcement screening to determine whether the prospective company has any current Clean Air Act enforcement issues. GreenChill reserves the right to deny a company from joining the Partnership based on Clean Air Act enforcement issues.