



GreenChill Store Certification Program



U.S. EPA's GreenChill is a voluntary program with the food retail industry to reduce refrigerant emissions and decrease impacts on the ozone layer and climate system. GreenChill has three primary programs. The **Store Certification Program** recognizes individual stores. The **Corporate Emissions Reduction Program** partners with food retailers, system manufacturers, and chemical producers/reclaimers. The **Advanced Refrigeration Promotion Program** promotes technologies, strategies, and practices.

GreenChill Certification

The GreenChill Store Certification Program recognizes individual food retail stores' achievements in environmentally friendlier refrigeration. A typical food retail store's refrigeration system leaks a sizable portion of its refrigerant charge each year, which affects the store's bottom line, harms the ozone layer, and contributes to climate change. GreenChill Certified Stores significantly reduce the environmental impacts of these refrigeration systems.

Individual stores can earn GreenChill Store Certification by achieving specific environmental performance criteria that go above and beyond federal requirements, including by using less refrigerant and minimizing refrigerant leaks. Any food retail store (e.g., supermarkets, grocery stores, co-ops, supercenters, and wholesale clubs) in the United States can apply whether the store is existing, newly constructed, or remodeled.

Benefits to Participating

- **Protect the Environment, Save Money.** A typical food retail store's refrigeration system leaks about one quarter of its refrigerant charge each year. GreenChill Certified Stores go beyond federal requirements to protect the ozone layer and climate system, while reducing refrigerant and maintenance costs.
- **Earn Publicity.** GreenChill recognizes Certified Stores during an annual recognition event, shares information on Certified Stores on its EPA website and social media platforms, and provides materials to help stores promote their achievements.
- **Demonstrate Commitment to Sustainability.** Customers want to do business with stores that share their values. Achieving GreenChill Store Certification for your store provides recognition of your company's leadership in and commitment to environmental protection.



Certification Process

Certification is available at no cost to food retail stores in the United States. GreenChill Certification is valid for one year. After one year, stores can apply for recertification.

STEP 1

Complete the application workbook. The information required for each submission depends on the store's installation date, if the store is new or operational, and if the store has previously earned certification.

STEP 2

Submit the application and all required attachments.

STEP 3

EPA will review the information to confirm and issue certification.

STEP 4

If your store achieves certification, you will receive a digital certificate and an order form for a plaque.

For additional information on the GreenChill Store Certification Program contact:

GreenChill@epa.gov

www.epa.gov/greenchill

Certification Standards

Stores seeking GreenChill Certification fall into one of two categories, based on the refrigeration equipment installation date.

Category 1 - Installed before January 1, 2025

Stores under Category 1 must provide emissions data (existing stores), leak tightness documentation (new stores), refrigeration legend or schedule in one thousand British thermal units per hour (MBTUs/hour), and refrigerant charge size documentation. GreenChill will evaluate the submission to determine if the store's global warming potential (GWP) weighted charge-to-load and emissions-to-load ratios qualify for certification.

Level	GWP-weighted Refrigerant Charge-to-Load Ratio (pounds/MBTU/hour)	GWP-weighted Annual Emissions-to-Load (MTCO ₂ e/MBTU/hour)
Platinum	<1,600	<0.03
Gold	1,600-2,000	0.03-0.08
Silver	>2,000-2,400	>0.08-0.13

MTCO₂e: metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent

Category 2 - Installed after January 1, 2025

Stores under Category 2 must provide emissions data (existing stores); leak tightness documentation (new stores); a refrigeration legend or schedule depicting all remote commercial refrigeration loads in MBTUs/hour; refrigerant charge size documentation; and documentation for their advanced refrigeration technologies, use of reclaimed refrigerants, technician training program and/or heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system.

Category 2 stores must meet all these criteria

- Use of primary refrigerant with a GWP of <150
- Low charge-to-load ratio equivalent to Category 1 Platinum-Level
- New installs: Leak tightness testing
- Operational: Emissions rate equivalent to Category 1 Platinum-Level

Category 2 stores must meet at least two of the following

- Use of primary refrigerant with a GWP of <10
- Use of advanced technology
- Use of an approved technician training program
- Use of refrigerant HVAC systems with a GWP of <400
- Use of reclaimed refrigerant for initial charge and/or servicing, or recovery of refrigerant for reclaim

Application requirements for stores seeking recertification are more streamlined. For detailed criteria and an application, visit the [GreenChill Store Certification Program webpage](#).