



## *March 2020 Newsletter*



Spring is on it's way and it's time  
to schedule your appointment  
for an AC maintenance!

Call Today!  
(513) 769-0871





### **Have an old R-22 heating and air conditioning system?**

Has your air conditioning system has been having issues? Are you at risk of a breakdown due to a loss of R22 refrigerant? What are you going to do? Well don't worry we can walk you through some steps. Now, as of January 1 of 2020, the manufacturing and distribution of virgin R-22 refrigerant was outlawed. All we can do now is use the existing refrigerant ("reclaimed") that is in stock with our suppliers. With that being in a limited supply the prices of this refrigerant are in fact, going to go up. The options we can let you know about are repairs, retrofit, and upgrade/replacement.

### **How do I know if my unit is using R-22?**

If you look at the outside panel on your condenser (the big ac unit outside), you will notice a number somewhere in it that indicated whether your heating and air conditioning system runs on R-410A or R-22. R-22 is typically in units that are older than 10+ years.

### **Why is R-22 not being manufactured anymore?**

R-22 is a refrigerant that was first created in the 1950's. Back then there weren't as many regulations and standards as there are now, simply due to the fact that there was not enough technology. With more recent testing, it has been ruled that this Freon is actually very harmful to our environment and is an ozone depleting cooling agent. This damage to the ozone layer is non-reversible and is going to hopefully be stopped with the phasing out of R-22. This phase out was mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

### **Should you keeping repairing your old system?**

The cost for the repair depends on the actual repair. Something to do with refrigerant is going to be more expensive than maybe a minor wiring repair. With Air Plus you will always know the price upfront before we do any work. This way you will know exactly what you are paying for and there are no surprises when it comes to your bill. The price to repair leaks are going to be based on the number of pounds of refrigerant used and with the limited supply of virgin refrigerant and stocks running out the only alternative is reusing R-22 that has been recovered from older units and is considered "reclaimed" and those costs are rising as supplies run out. The R22 ban won't affect homeowners that have a system that runs on R-22 that has no issues with leaking refrigerant, but there will be some challenges when it comes to repairing them. Also, you can only fix something that will inevitably break for so long. This is totally up to the homeowners discretion though, whether they want to repair or go with another option.

### **Is retrofitting your system a wise choice?**

What does retrofit mean? It means to modify an object, or in this case your system, with an accessory that it did not have when manufactured. So, there is another refrigerant that can actually be put into an R-22 system, but it has its good and bad. This refrigerant has been developed by

tested by manufacturers and would potentially void your warranty. It is important to note that there are considerable costs involved with this option and if your system has a leak chances are that it will still leak and this will not repair the underlying issue. So that is something to consider when you are thinking of retrofitting your system. Again, to choose this route is completely up to the homeowner's discretion and the risks involved should be seriously considered.

### **Is it time to thinking about a system upgrade or replacement?**

The choice to upgrade your system at first glance looks costly and drastic. When you think about it in detail though, it could be the best bang for your buck. Imagine how much you'll spend on putting a band-aid on something that is going to give out soon. In the long run you will be saving more money with a newer system. You won't have to worry about costly repairs and break downs; you'll have the newer refrigerant, and an up-to-date system. Newer air conditioning systems run on 410-A, which is the preferred cooling agent for systems. With this you're saving the Ozone layer because this is a chlorine free refrigerant unlike R-22. Prepare for the future and get a peace of mind that you won't break down in the middle of the summer heat.

### **What are your best options?**

If choosing what option works best for you is difficult, get in contact with us and let's talk about it in detail. Depending on the age of your unit, the problems it is having, the cost of repairs and what, if any, warranty it has are just some concerns that we can discuss and if you decide to upgrade there are federal tax credits, rebates and numerous financing options available to make it affordable to upgrade to a new compliant system.

Call (513)769-0871 and schedule a free in home estimate with one of our home advisers so you can be sure your system is ready to meet your cooling needs during the hottest of summer days!

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# IS YOUR HOME'S AIR POLLUTED?

**FIND OUT NOW AND CLEAN IT UP FOR GOOD!**

It's tempting to believe that indoor air is always cleaner than outdoor air, but research has shown that you can actually be exposed to more contaminants inside your home than outside of it.



Call the experts at Air Plus Heating & Cooling to learn about all of the indoor air quality products available to make sure you are breathing the cleanest and freshest indoor air possible!

## WE WANT YOUR OPINION

Air Plus cares about what our customers have to say so please share your opinion with us by clicking on the above links so we may continue to improve and meet your heating and cooling needs!!





**513-769-0871**  
**AirPlusCincinnati.com**

9301 Reading Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215



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**Our mailing address is:**

9301 Reading Rd.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

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