



New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

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New York Joins EPA Program to Promote Proper Disposal of Appliances

New York becomes the second state to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Responsible Appliance Disposal (RAD) Program, a voluntary program to help consumers dispose of appliances safely and responsibly as a move to help protect the ozone layer and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

State governments join the program as RAD affiliates to increase environmental benefits within their states. The first state to join was West Virginia.

As an affiliate, New York will promote the RAD program through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to potential partners at retail and wholesale companies, which will recover ozone-depleting chemicals from old refrigerators, freezers, window air conditioners and dehumidifiers. NYSERDA will also serve as a technical resource for these partners.

This affiliation comes on the heels of New York's Great Appliance Swap-Out, during which 164,757 residents to date have replaced old appliances with ENERGY STAR® appliances. Approximately 70% of participants have recycled their old appliances.

"Through our very successful New York State Great Appliance Swap-Out, NYSERDA partnered with a number of appliance retailers and wholesalers," said Francis J. Murray, President and CEO of NYSERDA. "Our relationships with them will help us build partner enrollment across the state, so we can begin this program right away, helping to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

Using best practices, RAD partners ensure that:

- Refrigerant is recovered and reclaimed or destroyed,
- Foam is recovered and destroyed, or the blowing agent is recovered and reclaimed,
- Metals, plastic and glass are recycled,
- PCBs, mercury and used oil are recovered and properly disposed.

"Responsibly disposing of old refrigerant-containing appliances protects the ozone layer, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and could save energy by switching to more energy efficient models," said Drusilla Hufford, Stratospheric Protection Division Director of the EPA. "By joining EPA's RAD Program, NYSERDA makes New York among the first states to bring these benefits home."

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In 2009, RAD partners prevented emissions of an estimated 4,000 pounds of ozone-depleting substances and 1.41 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases by recovering foam and refrigerants from appliances. The greenhouse gas reductions are equivalent to the annual emissions of 269,165 passenger cars. RAD partners also prevented the release of hazardous materials, and saved landfill space and energy by recycling durable materials.

For information on EPA's RAD Program: www.epa.gov/ozone/partnerships/rad/

NYSERDA is currently developing information on its web site, which will be available soon.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise and funding to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy and reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect our environment and create clean-energy

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