

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air Explains How R22 and R410A Refrigerant Changes Factor Into Greer AC Decisions

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GREER, SC - November 25, 2026 -
Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air is helping Greer homeowners understand how the type of refrigerant in an existing air conditioning system can influence repair and replacement decisions, as the heating and cooling industry continues a gradual transition toward newer refrigerants under federal rules.

Many older residential air conditioning systems still rely on R-22 refrigerant. New R-22 equipment is no longer manufactured for sale, and the production and import of new R-22 refrigerant in the United States ended in 2020. Existing R-22 systems can still be serviced legally using reclaimed or previously produced refrigerant, which means homeowners are not required to replace a functioning R-22 system simply because of the phaseout.

Many newer legacy systems use R-410A refrigerant. Existing R-410A systems can also continue to operate and be repaired. At the same time, new residential equipment is shifting toward lower global warming

potential refrigerants such as R-454B and R-32 under current Environmental Protection Agency guidelines. These newer refrigerants are not interchangeable with R-22 or R-410A, and replacement equipment should be professionally selected and installed to match the refrigerant and system design being used.

The transition adds one more consideration for homeowners weighing their options. When an air conditioning system is aging, requires frequent repairs, or no longer meets a home's cooling needs, refrigerant type now sits alongside system condition, repair history, component availability, performance, and the cost and scope of future repairs as a factor to evaluate.

"Refrigerant has become part of the conversation when a homeowner in Greer is deciding whether to repair or replace an air conditioning system," said Jay Mahaffey of Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air. "A functioning R-22 or R-410A system can still be serviced, so there is no reason to feel pressured into replacing equipment that is working well. The goal is simply to give people accurate information so they understand what their current system uses and what that means for the years ahead."

The work of Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air in Greer includes helping homeowners identify the refrigerant their current system uses, understand what that means for continued service, and determine whether repair or replacement is the more appropriate next step. The company evaluates existing systems and, when replacement is warranted, matches new equipment to the refrigerant and design requirements of the home.

"Each home is different, and the right answer depends on the condition of the system and how it is being used," Mahaffey added. "An evaluation looks at the whole picture rather than a single factor. That approach helps homeowners in Greer make a decision they can feel confident about."

Founded in 1969, Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air is a family-owned company serving Greenville and the surrounding Upstate region of South Carolina. The company provides air conditioning, heating, and plumbing services, including installation, maintenance, and repair of cooling and heating systems, heat pumps, geothermal systems, ductwork, indoor air quality solutions, and a full range of plumbing services. With decades of experience in the community, the company tailors its recommendations to the local climate and the needs of area homeowners.

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Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air has served Greer families since 1969 with dependable heating, cooling, and plumbing services, honest recommendations, and quality workmanship.

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