CU Green Labs Refrigerator & Freezer Maintenance Program Checklist

Refrigerated Equipment, Glass-Door Refrigerator, or Cold Incubator

✔ Coils clean (if accessible)? If your unit has exposed coils on the back, top or underneath, then:

- Look for dust on coils.
- Dirty coils increase energy consumption by preventing effective heat dissipation.
- To clean coils, gently vacuum, brush, or wipe with a wet paper towel. Coils are frequently found underneath or on the back of your unit, but also can be found on top. If underneath then a coil brush is the best way to clean the coils (contact CU Green Labs if you need access to a coil brush).
  - If your unit has delicate metal parallel lines on the coil, it is important to vacuum, brush or wipe the paper towel in the direction of the lines. BE CAREFUL NOT TO BEND METAL LINES!

✔ Filter clean (if applicable)?

- Clogged filters make it more difficult for air flow to cool the unit coils.
- To clean filter, remove and rinse with water (choose direction carefully so lint is pushed off filter). It is okay to place a wet filter back on the unit.

✔ Door sealing tightly and free of frost? – Brush frost frequently! IMPORTANT!

- A good seal is so important for keeping warm air outside of your unit for both the benefit of energy efficiency and unit performance.
- Frost and ice build-up can damage gaskets leading to expensive repairs.
- Keep gaskets free of frost and ice by brushing frost off your gasket frequently while it is easy to remove.
- Close the door on a piece of paper. If the paper falls, the gasket is not sealing well.

✔ No objects blocking air flow? IMPORTANT!

- Remove items that have fallen behind or are pushed up against your unit blocking air flow underneath, on the sides, or above your unit. Be especially careful not to block air intake or exhaust grills.
- It is important that the unit has good air flow for performance and energy efficiency.

For advice on maintaining your unit, efficient sample storage, or purchasing a new energy efficient unit, contact CU Green Labs.

For help with any other questions or needs: greenlabs@colorado.edu, 303-492-8308