



## *The Journal*



New U.S refrigerant  
mandate; read below



# Smithsonian Museum reopens to visitors; Vibrant History is coming alive



The Smithsonian, Maryland Ave DC

CHANTILLY, Va. May 1, 2021 — The Smithsonian reopened the first of several museums on Wednesday after closing because of the COVID-19 crisis. A bit of bright news for the Washington, D.C., cultural scene (and tourism machine): A slew of Smithsonian Institution-operated museums—seven in total—along with the National Zoo will reopen throughout May after being shuttered for over a year, save for a brief phased reopening last summer and fall. The sweeping closures were instituted as part of a second District-wide rollout of COVID-19 shutdowns in November put in place as a new wave of infections swept the nation. With the Smithsonian being a notable holdout, many smaller private museums across the nation's capital, and the country, have already welcomed back (a limited number of) guests in recent weeks with health and safety protocols in place. (Be sure to check out AN's non-

exhaustive list of new exhibitions to check out this spring at reopened museums in D.C.

The first Smithsonian institution to reopen will be the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at the National Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, Virginia, on May 5, an event that coincides with the 60th anniversary of Alan Shepard becoming the second man, and first American, to travel to space. The National Museum of African American History and Culture, the National Portrait Gallery,

and the Smithsonian American Art Museum and its Renwick Gallery are all slated to reopen on May 14. A week later, on May 21, the National Museum of American History, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the National Zoo which now has a notable eight-month-old new addition, will all reopen. All of these museums and the National Zoo reopened, albeit briefly, during the latter half of last year.

While these soon-to-reopen (again) museums represent a sizable swath of Smithsonian real estate, many of the institution's most beloved museums will remain closed until further notice. Per Smithsonian Magazine they are: the National Air and Space Museum (not including the Udvar-Hazy Center) and the National Museum of Natural History, both highly trafficked destinations on the National Mall, the Hirshhorn Museum, the National Museum of African Art, The National Museum of Asian Art (the Freer Gallery of Art and the Art M. Sackler Gallery), and the Anacostia Community Museum. The Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in Manhattan will also remain closed with no clear reopen date although that will likely come sooner rather than later as occupancy restrictions at New York museums and cultural institutions begin to loosen.



Oscartek Grab n Go at the Atrium Café

As reported by the Smithsonian, the museums set to reopen next month will have adjusted hours and free timed ticketing systems in place to prevent overcrowding—those accustomed to sauntering into a Smithsonian-operated space at any time they wish will now need to plan ahead. Social distancing will be encouraged and mask-wearing for all guests over the age of two will be mandatory. In most cases, save for the National Zoo, on-site cafes and retail outposts will remain closed for the time being.

As a Smithsonian spokesperson relayed to the New York Times, capacity at each of the museums will start around 25 percent but will gradually increase when officials deem it safe to allow more visitors into the museums at once. Further down the line, the Smithsonian Arts & Industries Building, which has been off-limits to the public for decades, will temporarily reopen its doors in November for the special David Rockwell-designed FUTURES exhibition. The National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va. was the first on the list to open its doors.

This museum reopened on the 60th anniversary of the first American spaceflight.

### *Short History:*

*In many ways, the origin of the Smithsonian Institution can be traced to a group of Washington citizens who, being "impressed with the importance of forming an association for promoting useful knowledge," met on June 28, 1816, to establish the Columbian Institute for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences. Officers were elected in October 1816, and the organization was granted a charter by Congress on April 20, 1818 (this charter expired in 1838). Benjamin Latrobe, who was architect for the US Capitol after the War of 1812, and William Thornton, the architect who designed the Octagon House and Tudor Place, would serve as officers. Other prominent members, who numbered from 30-70 during the Institute's existence, included John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, Judge William Cranch, and James Hoban. Honorary members included James Madison, James Monroe, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and the Marquis de Lafayette. Operating expenses were covered from the \$5 yearly dues collected from each member.*

*The Institute proposed a number of undertakings. These included the study of plant life and the creation of a botanical garden on the Capitol Mall, an examination of the country's mineral production, improvement in the management and care of livestock, and the writing of a topographical and statistical history of the United States. Reports were to be published periodically to share this knowledge with the greater public, but due to a lack of funds, this initially did not occur. The Institute first met in Blodget's Hotel, later in the Treasury Department and City Hall, before being assigned a permanent home in 1824 in the Capitol building.*

*Beginning in 1825, weekly sittings were arranged during sessions of Congress for the reading of scientific and literary productions, but this was continued for only a short time, as the number attending declined rapidly. Eighty-five communications by 26 people were made to Congress during the entire life of the society, with more than a half relating to astronomy or mathematics. Among all the activities planned by the Institute, only a few were actually implemented. Two were the establishment of a botanical garden, and a museum that was designed to have a national and permanent status. The former occupied space where the present Botanic Garden sits.*

*The museum contained specimens of zoology, botany, archeology, fossils, etc., some of which were passed on to the Smithsonian Institution after its formation. The Institute's charter expired in 1838, but its spirit lived on in the National Institution, founded in 1840. With the mission to "promote science and the useful arts, and to establish a national museum of natural history," this organization continued to press Congress to establish a museum that would be structured in terms that were very similar to those finally incorporated into the founding of the Smithsonian Institution. Its work helped to develop an underlying philosophy that pushed for the pursuit and development of scientific knowledge that would benefit the nation, and edify its citizens at the same time.*

*The British scientist James Smithson (1765–1829) left most of his wealth to his nephew Henry James Hungerford. When Hungerford died childless in 1835, the estate passed "to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an Establishment for the increase & diffusion of knowledge among men", in accordance with Smithson's will. Congress officially accepted the legacy bequeathed to the nation and pledged the faith of the United States to the charitable trust on July 1, 1836. The American diplomat Richard Rush was dispatched to England by President Andrew Jackson to collect the bequest. Rush returned in August 1838 with 105 sacks containing 104,960 gold sovereigns. This is approximately \$500,000 at the time, which is equivalent to \$12,005,000 in 2019 or equivalent to £9,520,034 in 2019. However, when considering the GDP at the time it may be more comparable to \$220 million in the year 2007.*

*Once the money was in hand, eight years of Congressional haggling ensued over how to interpret Smithson's rather vague mandate "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge". Unfortunately, the money was invested by the US Treasury in bonds issued by the state of Arkansas, which soon defaulted. After heated debate, Massachusetts representative (and former president) John Quincy Adams persuaded Congress to restore the lost funds with interest and, despite designs on the money for other purposes, convinced his colleagues to preserve it for an institution of science and learning. Finally, on August 10, 1846, President James K. Polk signed the legislation that established the Smithsonian Institution as a trust instrumentality of the United States, to be administered by a Board of Regents and a secretary of the Smithsonian.*



## United States to end refrigeration gases harmful to the environment

May 4, 2021, New York – “If the government manages the practice of cooling gases well, we can avoid accidental cooking with the equipment used to cool our planet.” This comment by the host Kristen Tadono-However, the company’s consultant for personality and sustainable development effectively summarizes the meaning of the decision taken by Biden management to eliminate hydrofluorocarbons.

What are HFCs, F-gases, and what they are

HFC or hydrofluorocarbons are cooling gases used in many commercial applications. They are organic compounds containing fluorine and hydrogen atoms, and have been developed as the most stable alternative to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which have been gradually reduced since 1996 based on the Montreal Protocol. They are used in cooling, air conditioners, fire extinguishers and heat pumps

I GAS HFC. Hydrofluorocarbons (Hydrofluorocarbons, HFCs) are man-made gases used to replace chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which are widely used in refrigerators and air conditioners, but have been banned by the Montreal Protocol because they damage ozone. So HFCs were born with the best intentions to protect the planet, instead C.F.C.. The problem is that they are not bad for the greenhouse effect, not bad. More than carbon dioxide. The evidence is undeniable, as it was banned in 2016 by an international treaty Kigali correction. Donald Trump However he refused to recognize it and repealed all the rules imposed by his predecessor in this matter Barack Obama. This was very clear despite the catastrophe created by the HFCs, Republican senators said in September last year. John Parazzo e John Blue Kennedy They presented a bipartisan proposal with their Democratic colleagues Thomas Carber,

With the intention of removing them within 15 years. This will lead to an 85% reduction in super pollutants by 2036, based on predictions that eliminating hydrofluorocarbons alone will be enough Global warming Half a degree Celsius.

On Monday, the Environmental Protection Agency, passed Michael Reagan Under the leadership of the new Biden administration, he decided to reopen the practice and began the progressive abolition of HFCs. “This choice – explained Reagan – is widely supported by the business community because it will help improve US leadership in the production of innovative and new climate-safe products. In other words, this move will benefit our planet and our economy.”

Presidential Special Envoy Kerry is trying to filter the world, and it is beginning to realize: Climate change is the jobs it can create not only for the environment and the people who live in it, but for sustainable development. In fact, China has even promised the former foreign secretary the removal of hydrofluorocarbons, which was done shortly before Biden’s summit at the White House during his recent visit to Shanghai.

Numbers. To understand the magnitude of the effect, calculations are done quickly. Between 2022 and 2023, the EPA plans to bring HFCs’ consumption to a level equivalent to the annual emissions of 269 million cubic tons of carbon dioxide, or 58 million U.S. cars, if released into the atmosphere. From 2022 to 2050, the new rules will generate \$ 284 billion in economic benefits.

When fully operational, they would be equivalent to 187 million cubic tons of carbon dioxide, the annual emissions of one in seven American cars. Added to this is the work created by the inventions needed for change, as well as the accidental benefit of not cooking with equipment designed to cool our planet.



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