

## Go Green and Save Green

Go Green! It is a phrase that is used frequently in our current society as we try to be stewards to our environment and try to reverse the human effects on global warming. Not only is our society in a “green” movement, but also in an economic crisis, which is driving people to save “green” or money wherever they can. With these current movements driving our economy, it doesn’t take long to see how easily the benefits of biodiesel can fit right into what people are looking for.

Biodiesel is a renewable fuel that is created using natural vegetable oils and fats. The oils from cooking oil, tallow, yellow grease, cottonseed oil, poultry grease and soybean oil are used the most often. Through chemical processes the oils and fats are converted into fatty acid methyl esters (FAME). This fuel can be used as a replacement for petroleum diesel fuel. It is the only alternative fuel that is compatible with heavyweight vehicles without adding injections or storage modifications. Compared to petroleum diesel fuel, biodiesel has a lower toxicity, is safer to handle, and is biodegradable. The byproduct of biodiesel, glycerin, can be used in personal care products or a variety of chemical applications. When biodiesel is used instead of petroleum diesel it greatly reduces the risk of global warming by reducing the net carbon emissions into the atmosphere. Biodiesel is actually a safe alternative for the life of your engine; in fact, it can extend the life of your engine through its lubricating properties.

As far as our economy goes, biodiesel has a lot to offer. In a recent market study, the production and use of biodiesel could bring \$24 billion to the U.S. between the years of 2005 and 2015. Also in this study it was projected that production of Biodiesel would create 39,102 new jobs in our economy. It is a fuel that can be created from resources that are found locally. It can then provide economic opportunities and benefits for a whole community. When the production of biodiesel is kept within a community it can increase the tax base, create jobs for feedstock farming, generate income for local feedstock producers, and create jobs for biodiesel production and distribution. Because of these benefits biodiesel is growing quickly among the many alternative fuels in the world. Biodiesel can conveniently work in today’s engines; therefore, it can compete well with the petroleum diesel industry. This is very important in a nation that is dependant on foreign oil which is increasingly becoming a shortage.

From the environmental benefits to the economic benefits it is easy to see how biodiesel is quickly becoming a household name. It is the whole package, benefiting the environment and creating many jobs that can stay right within a community. The economic activity that biodiesel brings is so vital in today’s society. So next time you are filling a diesel engine at the pump, “Go Green” and help your environment, your community, and the nations economy by choosing biodiesel.

Information obtained from: <http://www.biodiesel.com>