WHERE CAN I BUY E85?

In the Carolinas, there are over 100 service stations providing E85 to fleets and the motoring public with more stations planned and under development. For a complete listing of stations visit: www.afdc.energy.gov/afdclocator/stations. There are also mobile phone applications for locating E85 while on the road. Download www.neare85.com to find a station near you. If your favorite station does not offer E85, ask them to consider carrying it or click on “Get Involved” and “Biofuels Promotion” at www.cleantransportation.org for a print-out. Every customer makes a difference.

LEARN MORE @

CENTRALINA CLEAN FUELS COALITION
www.4cleanfuels.com
GROWTH ENERGY www.growthenergy.org
LAND-OF-SKY CLEAN VEHICLES COALITION
www.cleanvehiclescoalition.org
NC SOLAR CENTER/NC STATE UNIVERSITY
www.cleantransportation.org
PALMETTO STATE CLEAN CITIES
www.palmettocleanfuels.org
RENEWABLE FUELS ASSOCIATION
www.ethanolrfa.org
TRIANGLE CLEAN CITIES COALITION
www.trianglecleancities.org
U.S. DEPT OF ENERGY ALTERNATIVE FUELS
AND ADVANCED VEHICLES DATA CENTER
www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc
U.S. DEPT OF ENERGY FUEL ECONOMY GUIDE
www.fueleconomy.gov

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ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The Carolina Blue Skies and Green Jobs Initiative is a Clean Cities project awarded by U.S. Department of Energy to Triangle J Council of Governments, in Research Triangle Park, NC. [Award # DE-EE0002491]. Support for alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure projects is facilitated through the collaboration of five principal partners in the Carolinas.

PROJECT PARTNERS

E85 is a blend of up to 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline, although in winter months the blend of ethanol can drop to 70% to ensure proper ignition.

What is E85?

What is ethanol?

- The primary component of E85 is ethanol; alcohol fuel made by fermenting plant-based sugars. Corn is the primary feedstock for ethanol in the U.S.
- The next generation of ethanol may be produced from a variety of materials, ranging from grasses and trees to municipal solid waste.
WHAT IS A FFV?

- A flex fuel vehicle (FFV) can operate on E85, unleaded gas, or any blend of ethanol and gasoline. A fuel sensor regulates the air/fuel ratio to optimize performance depending on the fuel blend.
- Auto manufacturers have been producing FFVs since 1998, with over 8 million FFVs on the roads today. Currently, there are over 38 FFV makes and models being produced by U.S. manufacturers with a commitment to expand offerings every year.
- FFVs do not cost more than gasoline-only vehicles and can be identified by a label inside the fuel door. Some manufacturers indicate E85 compatibility with a yellow cap and/or flex fuel badge on vehicles. Click on FlexFuelVehicles at www.e85fuel.com for a complete list of FFVs and how to identify a FFV from its vehicle identification number.

BENEFITS

E85: America’s Fuel

ECONOMY - Ethanol produced in the Carolinas, and rapidly expanding elsewhere in the U.S., supports jobs in agriculture, production, distribution and transportation. In 2010, 12.3 billion gallons were produced in the U.S. - up from 1.6 B in 2000. The increased domestic production of ethanol supports local economies, providing jobs while decreasing U.S. dependence on imported oil. Ethanol production helps fill the hole left by declining U.S. oil production, which peaked in the 1970s.

ENERGY - Ethanol production is becoming increasingly more efficient. A 2010 U.S. Dept of Agriculture report* concludes that a typical U.S. plant provides approximately 2 times the amount of energy to use as fuel in your vehicle than the amount of fossil fuel energy needed to produce the ethanol.

EMISSIONS - E85 use reduces emissions as compared to gasoline. Its low volatility results in fewer evaporative emissions. Additionally E85 emits less carbon monoxide and other harmful toxics including benzene, a known carcinogen. Additionally, using E85 reduces CO2 emissions when accounting for full life-cycle or “well to wheels” emissions. Corn, used to produce ethanol, absorbs CO2 thereby reducing atmospheric greenhouse gases.

HOW DOES E85 PERFORM?

A gallon of ethanol contains less energy than a gallon of gasoline. Drivers may need to use more E85 to go the same distance as driving on gasoline only, depending on the vehicle and individual driving styles. Ethanol has higher octane - a performance enhancer - than gasoline. However, FFVs are not optimized to operate on E85 so performance factors such as power, acceleration, and cruising speed are essentially equivalent to vehicles operating on conventional fuels.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) requires the incorporation of biofuels into the U.S. fuel supply. Currently, most conventional gasoline contains a 10% blend of ethanol with gasoline, known as E10. However, there is a need to expand the use of ethanol beyond E10 to meet the federal RFS. With FFVs available at no additional cost to the consumer and E85 competitively priced at the pump, E85 - America’s fuel - is an excellent opportunity to enhance our economy while supporting energy diversity and reducing emissions.