

# Support the Renewable Fuel Standard



## FAST FACT

**In 2017, ethanol producers purchased over \$19 billion worth of corn from farmers in the U.S.,** substantially supporting these farmers during a time of low commodity prices and a time of increasing downward pressure on net farm income.

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is lowering our dependence on foreign oil, keeping our air clean, revitalizing rural America, and providing consumers with more affordable fuel options at the pump.

## THE RFS IS GOOD FOR AMERICA

### IT'S GIVING CONSUMERS A CHOICE AT THE PUMP.

- The RFS gives American drivers a better-performing, cleaner, less expensive, and homegrown fuel option – ethanol-blended fuel. Today, higher ethanol blends like [E15 are available at more than 1,400 gas stations around the country](#), saving consumers up to 10 cents per gallon.
- The RFS has injected much-needed competition and consumer choice into the fuel market.

### IT'S LOWERING DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL.

- Since 2005 – the year the RFS was enacted – [net oil imports have dropped by more than 70 percent](#).
- Today, the U.S. consumes [more than 19 million barrels of oil per day](#), and about [19 percent of that is still being imported from other countries](#).

### IT'S REDUCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT.

- Corn ethanol [reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 43 percent](#) compared to conventional gasoline and has the potential to [reduce emissions by as much as 76 percent](#).
- The U.S. used enough ethanol in 2017 to offset the need for more than [343 million barrels of toxic petroleum products like MTBE, benzene, Toluene, and xylene](#) – all of which have detrimental impacts on human health. That amount would fill almost 22,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.
- The RFS stimulates investment in the next generation of advanced biofuels, like cellulosic ethanol, that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100 percent or more over conventional gasoline.
- Ethanol helps to displace toxic petroleum chemicals that have been proven to cause cancer and smog.

## ETHANOL: AN AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY

- The RFS policy and homegrown biofuels supported nearly [360,000 jobs in 2017](#).
- Ethanol is now blended in [more than 98 percent of our fuel supply](#) and makes up 10 percent of Americans' gas tanks.
- The RFS policy has the ethanol industry at a production capacity of over [16 billion gallons of renewable fuel and over 44 million tons of animal feed](#), which helps meet our nation's need for fuel and food.



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