



## Green Depot Biodiesel Club Membership Agreement

Biodiesel (B100) and biodiesel blends over B5 that do not meet ASTM D-975 petroleum specifications are sold as developmental fuels in California. California Department of Food & Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) regulations and California Business and Professional Code require that fuel vendors and users follow certain guidelines for retail sales of developmental fuels.

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms/programs/petroleum/DevelopmentalFuels/CCR4144\\_4147\\_4148.pdf](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms/programs/petroleum/DevelopmentalFuels/CCR4144_4147_4148.pdf)

In order to comply with these guidelines and to purchase ASTM D-6751 specified biodiesel from us, we ask that you join our biodiesel club, **Green Depot**. To do this, simply fill out, sign and return this form to us. Your contact information will never be shared or released to any third parties without your permission.

### Your Responsibilities:

1. Please provide us with any information regarding the performance of biodiesel or any issues that you observe while using the fuel. This information is critical to allow us to complete the required quarterly reports to the DMS.
2. Please read all of the following information before purchasing biodiesel and biodiesel blend fuels. As a user, you must be aware of and responsible for the following issues concerning biodiesel fuel and its usage. Call if you have any questions.
  - a. *Engine Warranty:* The use of biodiesel and biodiesel blends has not been approved by all engine manufacturers. Your use of this fuel may affect your warranty, therefore you should check your owners manual or with your engine manufacturer before using biodiesel blends over B5. Be aware of this issue and use the fuel according to your own judgement.  
[http://www.nbb.org/resources/fuelfactsheets/standards\\_and\\_warranties.shtm](http://www.nbb.org/resources/fuelfactsheets/standards_and_warranties.shtm)
  - b. *Fuel Filters:* Biodiesel is an effective solvent and can dislodge carbon deposits built up in an engine after prolonged use of petroleum diesel. These deposits can clog your vehicle's fuel filter, which can be recognized by symptoms such as power loss, engine sputtering, difficulty starting, and poor fuel mileage. If you notice these symptoms, you will have to replace your vehicle's fuel filter (possibly more than once, depending on the amount of petroleum solids in the fuel system). We recommend keeping at least one spare fuel filter on hand at all times.
  - c. *Rubber Parts:* Elastomer compatibility with biodiesel is still being monitored, but biodiesel will degrade natural rubber components in older vehicles' fuel systems faster than petroleum diesel. These components include some hoses, seals, and o-rings. Most diesel vehicles made after 1993 use synthetic components, eliminating this problem. Please contact the manufacturer for answers on specific parts. Should your rubber components need replacement, we recommend viton substitutes.
  - d. *Clean Up:* Biodiesel will dissolve most types of paint. If drips occur during refueling we recommend wiping immediately with a soft rag. When the rag becomes soaked with biodiesel, put it in a dark, closed storage container to await proper disposal. **Do not leave fuel-soaked rags in the sun.** Under such conditions, the rags are prone to spontaneous combustion due to oxidation and the heat generated during that process.



- e. *Cold Weather Properties:* Depending on its feedstock, biodiesel can gel at temperatures as high as 40 degrees Fahrenheit or higher without added anti-gel. If you operate in cold weather take precautions to prevent gelling which can include blending with petroleum or the use of cold weather treatments.
  - f. *Emissions and Performance:* Because every engine is different, we make no claims about the emissions or performance when using biodiesel fuel. Biodiesel provides approximately 5-7% less energy per gallon of fuel as compared to petroleum diesel. This small loss of power and fuel economy is mitigated by biodiesel's higher lubricity and cetane number.
  - g. *Oxidation and Storage:* Biodiesel has poor oxidation stability, which can result in long term storage problems. The poor oxidation stability qualities may accelerate fuel oxidation in the fuel system. This is especially true in engines with electronic fuel systems because they operate at higher temperatures. Biodiesel should not be stored for more than 6 months without topping off or cycling. Biodiesel needs to be stored properly, in a dark container, away from air and water. Large fuel containers must be vented properly.
  - h. *Contamination:* Like diesel, biodiesel is susceptible to microbial growth and contamination. It is your responsibility to guard against contamination, which should be taken very seriously. Care must be taken to remove water from fuel tanks. Water accelerates microbial growth. Water is naturally more prevalent in biodiesel fuels than in distillate fuels
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Monthly Use (gallons): B5 \_\_\_\_\_ B20 \_\_\_\_\_ B100 \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicles, Vessel or Equipment using Biodiesel or Biodiesel Blends:

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read, understand and agree to the terms of this Membership Agreement.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Retain one copy for your records and mail or FAX a signed original to:

Green Depot

PO Box 3096

Santa Monica, CA 90408

FAX: 310.452.3730

**Reference Resources:**

Biodiesel Handling and Use Guidelines [http://www.nrel.gov/vehiclesandfuels/npbf/feature\\_guidelines.html](http://www.nrel.gov/vehiclesandfuels/npbf/feature_guidelines.html)

Generic Biodiesel MSDS [http://www.biodiesel.org/pdf\\_files/fuelsheets/MSDS.pdf](http://www.biodiesel.org/pdf_files/fuelsheets/MSDS.pdf)