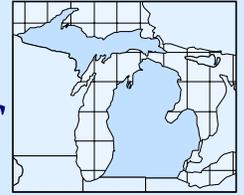


Volume 3, Issue 2

April 1, 2003

# *Ethanol Coalition of Michigan (ECOM)-NEWS*



## **Who We Are**

The Ethanol Coalition of Michigan (ECOM) unites commodity organizations, fuel suppliers, educators, producers, businesses, government agencies and individuals who are interested in expanding the production and use of ethanol in Michigan. ECOM goals include: increasing public awareness on the benefits of ethanol; supporting legislative efforts, encouraging positive ethanol marketing practices and presenting ethanol educational programs to schools, civic groups and other interested parties.

## **Contact Information**

If you are interested in receiving ECOM NEWS or have ethanol-related information to submit for this publication, contact Kelly Launder, MI Energy Office-Biomass Energy Program Manager at (517) 241-6223 or by email at: [klaund@michigan.gov](mailto:klaund@michigan.gov)

Additional ethanol information is available on the Biomass Energy Program website at <http://michiganbioenergy.org>

## **ECOM Activities**

### **Legislative Reception**

ECOM is currently planning to hold a legislative reception in September or early October to provide Michigan legislators with information to support upcoming ethanol-related legislation and to stress the importance of ethanol production and use in Michigan. One or two speakers will be invited to provide a national and state perspective on ethanol. The reception may also include an Expo, with displays from various ethanol-related businesses and organizations.

### **April Meeting**

Tim Gerlach from the American Lung Association of Minnesota will be the guest speaker at the April ECOM meeting. Tim will be discussing ethanol incentives available in MN and how they were established, E85 pricing issues, pump labeling, education, and the impact of ethanol use on the federal highway funds. Anyone interested in attending the meeting should contact Kelly Launder at [klaund@michigan.gov](mailto:klaund@michigan.gov)

## **Additional Updates**

### **Michigan Represented on House Biofuels Caucus**

The House Biofuels Caucus will include two Michigan Representatives this year- Congressmen John Conyers (D) District 14 and Congressmen Dale Kildee (D) District 9. The purpose of the Biofuels Caucus is to "support efforts to increase the production and use of domestic biofuels, such as ethanol and biodiesel." (Source: Renewable Fuels Association)

### **GM Will Participate in E-85 Promotion**

General Motors Corporation announced their support of alternatives fuels through a multi-million dollar campaign to promote the use of E-85. GM will partner with the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition to increase the use of E85 in the more than 3 million flexible fuel vehicles currently on the road in the United States.

### **Michigan Teams Receive Honors at Clean Snowmobile Challenge**

The 2003 SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge was held March 19-23 in Houghton, Michigan. In this year's challenge 13 schools competed to produce snowmobiles that were quieter, more fuel efficient and cleaner than current models without sacrificing performance. Michigan Technological University was the second place winner and Kettering University came in third place. MI Tech. also received honors for "Best Design" and Kettering received honors for "Most Practical". All teams operated the snowmobiles on at least 10% ethanol blends. Additional information is available on the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) website at [www.sae.org/students/snow.htm](http://www.sae.org/students/snow.htm)

## **Additional Updates –continued**

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### **Michigan Biomass Energy Program Workshop and Event Funding Now Available**

The Michigan Energy Office-Biomass Energy Program is offering funding for biomass-related workshops or events. All workshops/events must take place in Michigan and occur before December 31, 2003. There is a maximum award of \$2,500 for each workshop/event. The target audience may include fleets, farmers, student, flexible fuel vehicle owners or other relevant groups. Funds will be awarded on a first come basis until total funds are distributed. To date, event funding has been awarded to Michigan Technological University for the Clean Snowmobile Challenge.

### **Cellulosic Pilot Production Facility is a Success!**

Iogen Corporation has announced that their EcoEthanol™ demonstration plant is processing 25 tons of wheat straw per week and is on track to produce approximately 85,000 gallons of ethanol annually. This is the first facility to use modern enzyme technology to convert straw and other agriculture residues into fermentable sugar on a large scale. Additional information on this innovative facility is available on Iogen's website at [www.iogen.ca](http://www.iogen.ca)

## **Upcoming Events**

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### **25th Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemicals**

**May 4-7**

Breckenridge, Colorado

Contact: Liz Wilson

Phone: (303) 284-7750

Website: [www.nrel.doe.gov/biotech\\_symposium](http://www.nrel.doe.gov/biotech_symposium)

### **Alternative Fleet Fuels Workshop**

**May 15**

Chicago, Illinois

Contact: Energy Management Institute

Website: [www.energyinstitution.org](http://www.energyinstitution.org)

### **9th National Clean Cities Conference/Expo**

**May 18-21**

Palm Springs, California

Contact: Kim Taylor

Phone: (303) 275-4358

Website: [www.cities.doe.gov](http://www.cities.doe.gov)

### **EPAC's 13th Annual Ethanol Conference**

**June 11-13**

Big Sky, Montana

Contact: EPAC

Website: [www.ethanolmt.org](http://www.ethanolmt.org)

### **International Fuel Ethanol Workshop**

**June 16-19**

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Contact: BBI International

Phone: (719) 942-4353

Website: [www.bbiethanol.com](http://www.bbiethanol.com)

### **Alternative Fuels Workshop**

**June 23-27**

Carbondale, Colorado

Contact: Solar Energy International

Phone: (970) 963-8855

Website: [www.solarenergy.org/altfuel.htm](http://www.solarenergy.org/altfuel.htm)

### **Assessing the Sustainability of Biobased Products**

**June 26-27**

Norman, Oklahoma

Contact: Rober Anex

Phone: (405) 325-2299

Email: [rpanex@ou.edu](mailto:rpanex@ou.edu)

Website: [www.ou.edu](http://www.ou.edu)

### **ACE Annual Meeting & Ethanol Conference**

**July 30-August 1**

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Contact: American Coalition for Ethanol

Website: [www.ethanol.org/conference.htm](http://www.ethanol.org/conference.htm)