

CARBON NEUTRAL SOLUTIONS LLC
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY CO-OPERATIVE

Membership Application and Agreement

This form represents an agreement between Carbon Neutral Solutions, LLC ("us") and "you."
Your email, phone and address are for co-op contact use only and will not be shared or released to anyone else.

Member #: _____

Name: _____

Other Family Members: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Estimated Monthly Use: _____ (in gallons)

Vehicles or Equipment using alternative fuel:

Make: _____ Model _____ Engine _____ Year _____ Fuel _____

Make: _____ Model _____ Engine _____ Year _____ Fuel _____

Make: _____ Model _____ Engine _____ Year _____ Fuel _____

Make: _____ Model _____ Engine _____ Year _____ Fuel _____

Initial amount of membership fees paid \$ _____

This application and agreement (and all terms mentioned herein) applies only to the above mentioned parties, and supersedes any previous versions. It is the responsibility of the member to read information before purchasing biodiesel fuels. Please call if you have any questions.

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

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Mail, or hand deliver completed agreement, and your check for your share to:

CARBON NEUTRAL SOLUTIONS LLC
140 Kingsland Way
Piedmont, SC 29673
Attn: CNSLLC

CARBON NEUTRAL SOLUTIONS LLC ALTERNATIVE ENERGY CO-OPERATIVE

I. Mission

The primary mission of Carbon Neutral Solutions LLC is to promote the use of alternative energies, including, but not limited to, Biodiesel, Vegetable Oil, Solar, Wind and electric power.

II. Member Owned Organization:

This Co-operative (“*co-op*”) is a member-driven entity. The Members are the backbone of the co-op, and are the motivating force in promoting the use of alternative energies. Each member is entitled to all the rights and benefits of membership including but not limited to: the right to purchase fuel that is renewable, technologies that lower one’s carbon footprint and/or lower their emissions, the right to fuel from local sources, and the right to be informed on local issues.

III. How the Co-op Works

Co-op Members join on a yearly basis by contributing **\$50** for an individual membership and **\$150** for businesses. The co-op will use available funds to a) purchase feedstock, equipment, supplies, semi-finished or finished product, b) operate and produce itself the finished or semi-finished product and c) make it available to members at the co-op workshop at 9 Kellett Drive, Suite D, Greenville, SC 29607.

Members must be present and attend the delivery of the products on pre-determined days, ensure that the delivery is accurate. Other member roles include but are not limited to assisting in the collection of supplies, and volunteer for a variety of individual tasks as assigned by the co-op.

The process to become, and remain a member is as follows:

A. The Membership Co-operative Application must be completed and signed, and given to the Co-operative with the yearly membership fee. Any additional funds will be accepted as a non-recourse loan or donation.

B. The co-operative will issue the member a receipt indicating the amount paid, the level of membership (individual or business) and the member’s account number.

C. Effective January 1, 2008 (and by no later than January 30th), all levels of members are required to pay annual renewal dues, in an amount that will be determined by the Board of Directors, but which is initially \$50.00 for non business members and \$150.00 for business members.

D. When membership dues are past due, renewal fees will add \$10 per month late fee to the members account.

E. Product will only be made available to members in good standing.

IV. Ad Hoc Groups

It may be advantageous to create sub-groups within the Co-op community in order to deal with specific issues as they come up. For example, it would be helpful to have volunteers form a “Communications and Outreach Group” to promote our activities and recruit new members.

V. Rights and Obligations of Members

All Co-operative members have rights and obligations.

A. The Co-operative Principles will be followed, to the fullest extent possible.

B. All members will receive the periodic publications and communications disseminated by the Co-operative.

- C. Only members can serve on the Board of Directors when established, although all levels of members may otherwise serve on committees or participate in activities.
- D. Only paid members in good standing can vote or have fueling privilege.
- E. Only voting members may inspect the books and records or obtain membership lists.
- F. The membership rights are not transferable without Board Approval.
- G. Individual members of the same family unit living at the same address can apply for and receive one family membership.

VI. Member Responsibility and Disclosure:

Co-op Members will effectively run the entity. From delivering the product to the marketing promotional materials to soliciting new members, Co-op Members will take the lead. Our primary goal is to make alternative energies available for members, but the broader mission is to promote alternative energies to the larger community. We hope that Members will become “**alternative energies ambassadors**” and help lead the movement of promoting clean recyclable energy.

It is also important that Members recognize that there are people, and some organizations that would prefer not to see alternative energies become viable fuels of the future.

Therefore, Members are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism to ensure that the movement acquires a respectable reputation.

Each member will provide the co-op with any requested information regarding the performance of alternative fuels or any issues that the member observes while using the alternative fuel. If you change or add vehicles covered under your membership agreement you should update your agreement form accordingly with the Make, Model and Year of the vehicle.

VII. Precautions and disclaimers:

The following are facts concerning alternative fuel and its usage. You as a user must be aware of and responsible for these qualities of biodiesel fuel:

1. Disclaimer: YOU EXPRESSLY AGREE THAT THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL IS AT YOUR SOLE RISK. NEITHER CARBON NEUTRAL SOLUTIONS, LLC, THE PROPERTY OWNERS, AFFILIATES NOR ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, AGENTS OR THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS ARE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES OR LOSS OF MONEY RESULTING FROM THE USE OR ACCESS TO THE ALTERNATIVE FUEL.

2. Engine Warranty: The use of alternative fuels and blends may not been approved by all engine manufacturers. Your use of the alternative fuel may affect your warranty; therefore you should check your owner’s manual or with your engine manufacturer before using alternative fuels. Be aware of this issue and use the fuel according to your own judgment. See the link below to engine warrantee statements.

3. Solvent Properties: Some alternative fuels, in addition to being fuel, are an effective solvent, and will act accordingly. This means that:

A. They will dissolve existing solids created through the usage of petroleum fuel in your vehicle's fuel system. These solids may clog your vehicle's fuel filter. When this happens depends on many factors, but can be recognized by the following symptoms: power loss, engine sputtering, difficulty starting, and poor fuel mileage. **When 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). The co-op board recommends keeping at least one spare fuel filter on hand (in the vehicle) at all times. The clogging of fuel filters also occurs with old fuel storage containers that contained petroleum fuel. When dealing with such large fuel tanks, fuel filters may have to be changed many times, and cleaning of the tank before biodiesel usage may be a more suitable alternative.

B. They can, over time, dissolves most types of paint. For this reason, the co-op recommends keeping a clean, soft, dry rag on hand when fueling, to gently wipe off any spillage. When the rag becomes soaked, put it in a dark, closed storage container to await proper disposal. **Do not leave any fuel-soaked rags crumpled up in the sun.** Under these conditions, the rags are prone to spontaneous combustion due to oxidation and the heat generated during that process.

c. Alternative fuels may degrade rubber components in older vehicles' fuel systems faster than petroleum fuel. Most vehicles made after 1993 use synthetic hoses thus eliminating this problem. Please contact the manufacturer for answers on specific parts. Should your rubber components need replacement, we highly recommend the use of synthetic rubber hoses (for instance Viton ©) as replacements.

3. Cold Weather Properties: Depending on the alternative fuel properties, the fuel can gel at temperatures as high as 50 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. This is especially recommended for vehicles with electronically-controlled, highly-sensitive fuel injection systems, such as those found in Volkswagen TDI and Chevrolet/GMC Duramax.

4. Vehicle Emissions and Performance: Because every engine is different, the co-op makes no claims about the emissions or performance when burning alternative fuel. Alternative fuels do not have the same effects on every vehicle. There may be small loss of power and fuel economy (2-8%) is to be expected, although this is sometimes mitigated by higher lubricity and cetane number.

5. Storage: Any fuel should not be stored more than 6 months without topping off or cycling. Fuel can oxidize when exposed to air and light for extended periods, resulting in a "rancid" fuel that can have negative effects on your vehicle's performance. Any fuel needs to be stored properly, in a dark container, away from air and water. Fuel can attract bugs and biological contamination. ***The potential for contamination should be taken very seriously, guarding against it is the member's responsibility.***

All information contained in this Membership Agreement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing.