



## Bio Power Benefits

*Biomass presents Wisconsin with two important opportunities: one to grow the economy and the second to improve the environment.*

*Here are some facts:*

### Economic Benefits

According to the US Department of Energy, in 2007 alone, the ethanol industry helped create more than 238,000 jobs in all sectors of the economy, boosted U.S. household income by \$12.3 billion through increased economic activity and new jobs, and added an estimated \$4.6 billion in federal tax revenue and nearly \$3.6 billion in state and local tax revenues. Growth of the biomass industry is creating new markets and employment for farmers and foresters, as well as job opportunities in processing and distribution.

*Source: [http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/economic\\_growth.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/economic_growth.html)*

### Environmental Benefits

Biomass energy brings numerous environmental benefits—reducing air and water pollution, increasing soil quality and reducing erosion, and improving wildlife habitat.

Biomass reduces air pollution by being a part of the carbon cycle, reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 90 percent compared with fossil fuels. Sulfur dioxide and other pollutants are also reduced substantially.

Water pollution is reduced because fewer fertilizers and pesticides are used to grow energy crops, and erosion is reduced.

*Source: [http://www.ucsusa.org/clean\\_energy/technology\\_and\\_impacts/energy\\_technologies/how-biomass-energy-works.html#Environmental\\_Benefits](http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/technology_and_impacts/energy_technologies/how-biomass-energy-works.html#Environmental_Benefits)*