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**Contact:** Kristin Brekke  
[kbrekke@ethanol.org](mailto:kbrekke@ethanol.org) / (605) 334-3381



## **Ethanol offers measurable savings for holiday weekend motorists**

**Sioux Falls, SD** (May 27, 2010) – AAA expects 28 million Americans to travel the nation's roads this holiday weekend, and new data shows they will save nearly a dime per gallon of gasoline thanks to the availability of ethanol.

Ethanol is currently selling for nearly a dollar less than gasoline at the rack, leading to cost savings for ethanol blends at the retail level. According to fuel price data\* published May 24, the E10 blend is an average 9.5 cents per gallon lower than straight gasoline. Based on AAA's expected travel distances and a national average gas price of \$2.85 per gallon, this 9.5 cent discount for E10 could equal \$95.8 million in savings nationwide.

"Every little bit of cost savings helps in a tight economy, and American families are saving money at the pump thanks to the availability of ethanol," said Ron Lamberty, Vice President / Market Development for the American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE), the nation's largest grassroots ethanol association. "With the wide spread right now between ethanol and gasoline prices, the higher the ethanol content per gallon of your fuel, the higher the savings."

The savings on E15 would be nearly 14 cents per gallon. If the E15 blend was available nationwide, the total savings for motorists this holiday weekend could reach \$138 million. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to make its ruling this summer on whether to allow all consumers access to the 15 percent ethanol blend.

At the current ethanol price, the E30 blend is 28.5 cents per gallon less than gasoline, and E85 is 75 cents less per gallon.

"Motorists deserve to have access to these cost-effective fuels at the pump instead of just being limited by government red tape and Big Oil's grip on the market," added Brian Jennings, Executive Vice President of ACE. "We need to give consumers the power to choose whatever fuel is most affordable by making flexible fuel vehicles and blender pumps more widely available."

Flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs) can operate on any blend of ethanol and gasoline from straight gasoline up to E85. Blender pumps allow gas stations to offer a wide variety of ethanol-gasoline blends in the same amount of space as a regular pump. Fuels commonly offered at blender pumps include E10, E20, E30, E50, and E85. There are approximately 200 blender pump locations today in the U.S., which can be viewed on [this map](#).

U.S. Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) have introduced S. 1627, the Consumer Fuels and Vehicles Choice Act, to increase the number of FFVs and blender pumps nationwide. For more information, visit the [Fuel Choice](#) page at Ethanol.org.

For more information about ethanol, visit [www.ethanol.org](http://www.ethanol.org).

\* Source: Oil Price Information Service (OPIS) Chicago Average Rack Price for the week ending May 21, 2010

\*\* Source: AAA Memorial Day 2010 Travel Forecast, May 20, 2010

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*The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) is the grassroots voice of the U.S. ethanol industry, a national advocacy association for the ethanol industry with nearly 1,500 members nationwide, including farmers, ethanol producers, commodity organizations, businesses supplying goods and services to the ethanol industry, rural electric cooperatives, and individuals supportive of increased production and use of ethanol. For more information about ethanol or ACE, visit [www.ethanol.org](http://www.ethanol.org) or call (605) 334-3381.*