

11th Annual Biofuels Science and Sustainability Tour

Tentative Agenda

(Subject to Change)

All transportation, lodging and meals are provided.

Monday, Aug. 12

Arrive Des Moines airport, check into hotel

Dinner at Iowa State Fair

Briefing from Offices of Iowa's Governor and Secretary of Agriculture

Topics: The Iowa leaders will discuss the importance of biofuels production and use to the Iowa economy and advances in agronomic practices that lead to a reduced environmental footprint year-after-year.

Tour Iowa State Fair Agriculture and Renewable Fuels Exhibits

Topics: Attendees will tour state fair exhibits on agriculture and renewable energy to obtain information about new technologies in these industries and to better understand regulatory issues facing the industries.

Overnight Des Moines, Iowa

Tuesday, Aug. 13

Tour Iowa State University Sorenson Research Farm

Topics: Bioenergy Crops, Sustainable Agricultural Practices, and Biochar

Research Updates from Iowa State University

Topics may include: Economics of Biofuels, Agriculture's Role in Carbon Removal, or Impact of Trade on Rural Economies

Tour Iowa State University BioCentury Research Farm

Topics: Attendees will tour state-of-the-art research facility to witness the latest pre-commercial research on enzymatic and thermo-chemical biofuels production as well as pre-treatment of various feedstocks.

Lunch with area farmers

Topics: Informal small group discussions between area farmers and Tour participants on policy, trade and regulations impacting the farm economy.

Tour of Family Farm

Topics: Learn about advances in corn and soybean seed technology, agronomic practices, the use of biofuels coproducts for livestock feed, and precision ag equipment from local farmers. Discuss changes in farming, impact of biofuels/trade, and use of biofuel coproducts in livestock feed rations.

Tour of Petroleum/Biofuels Blending Facility

Topics: Learn how petroleum and biofuels meet in the middle of the country to provide consumers with lower-cost, cleaner-burning choices at the pump. After this visit, you'll be a pro at using the terms "splash blending," "in-line blending," "below the rack," and "blender of record."

Overnight: Waterloo, Iowa

Wednesday, Aug. 14**Tour John Deere Waterloo Works**

Topics: Learn about how biofuels power the entire agriculture system and many related industries like farm equipment.

Tour Convenience Store (fueling station)

Topics: See how a large retailing chain has embraced biofuels options for their customers, offering multiple blends of ethanol and biodiesel. Learn why they do it and how customers have responded.

Ethanol Policy Update

Topic: Learn how increased ethanol use can improve fuel economy, reduce tailpipe emissions, and lower the carbon footprint of transportation fuels. Ask any of your ethanol questions from "can I use ethanol in my lawnmower" to detailed questions about the RFS reset and RIN reform.

Tour Big River United (ethanol plant)

Topics: Learn about the ethanol production process and advancements in plant efficiency before taking an insider tour of the plant.

Congressional Staff Roundtable

Topics: IRFA's Monte Shaw moderates a roundtable where the latest policy updates on the RFS, tax and trade policy will be discussed.

Overnight Dubuque, Iowa

Thursday, Aug. 15

Biodiesel policy update

Topics: National Biodiesel Board will discuss “What’s on the Horizon for Biodiesel,” a look at the status of the biodiesel industry and priority policy objectives.

Tour Western Dubuque Biodiesel (biodiesel plant)

Topics: Learn about the biodiesel production process and advancements in plant efficiency before taking an insider tour of the plant.

Tour Enzyme Production Facility

Topics: Learn how advances in enzymes have made ethanol production more efficient, lowered its carbon footprint, and unlocked the door to ethanol production from cellulosic feedstocks like corn stover or corn kernel fiber.

Depart Cedar Rapids Airport for DC