

America's Energy Future Glossary

Source: [EIA Energy Kids Page](#)

Biodiesel - An alternative fuel that can be made from any fat or vegetable oil. It can be used in any diesel engine with few or no modifications. Although biodiesel does not contain petroleum, it can be blended with diesel at any level or used in its pure form.

Biomass - Any organic (plant or animal) material which is available on a renewable basis, including agricultural crops and agricultural wastes and residues, wood and wood wastes and residues, animal wastes, municipal wastes, and aquatic plants.

Cap and Trade - Cap and trade is an environmental policy tool that delivers results with a mandatory cap on carbon emissions while providing sources the ability to trade carbon credits.

Carbon – Neutral - Being **carbon neutral**, or having a **net zero carbon footprint**, refers to achieving net zero carbon emissions by balancing a measured amount of carbon released with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset.

Renewables - Fuels that can be easily made or "renewed." We can never use up renewable fuels. Types of renewable fuels are hydropower (water), solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass.