



University Relations

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Alternative Fuels at Northwest

With the cost of fossil fuels skyrocketing, Northwest Missouri State University continues to be a national leader in using alternative fuels to heat and cool our campus.

In addition, Northwest has added a number of E-85 compatible automobiles to our University fleet. These cars have engines equipped to use a fuel mixture that is 85 percent ethanol, an alternative fuel distilled from corn.

Here are other key points to consider:

- The University has been burning chipped wood waste since 1982 in order to generate most of the power needed to heat and cool all campus facilities. It has been burning pelletized paper waste since 1993.
- Northwest has realized about \$12.5 million in savings from the use of alternative fuel sources compared to purchasing natural gas and oil.
- Our unique alternative fuels technology heats and cools 1.9 million square feet of floor space on a campus serving more than 7,000 students.
- Currently between 75 and 80 percent of the University's thermal energy needs comes from alternative fuels.
- To support its alternative fuels initiative, Northwest started a comprehensive campuswide recycling program and worked with regional partners to establish a five-county recycling network.
- Northwest has acquired a U.S. patent for an animal waste-to-energy production process

For more information, go to <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/aboutus/fuels/index.htm>.