

Feedstock Methodology

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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The first step in the production of biodiesel is obtaining a suitable vegetable oil or animal fat (feedstock). The potential sources are:

- Collection of used oil commonly called yellow grease from restaurants and/or households;
- Collection of animal fat from slaughter houses and packing sheds;
- Purchasing yellow grease or tallow from an existing renderer;
- Contracting production of vegetable oil seeds from local farmers or processors;
- Purchasing clean seed from an existing warehouse or seedsman; and
- Purchasing vegetable oil from an existing crushing plant.

Municipal biodiesel producers generally use the potential source as the first option to produce the alternative fuel. If a city collects 1,000 gallons of used cooking oil then 1,000 gallons of biodiesel will be produced. The typical biodiesel production formula is as follows:

100 lbs. of used vegetable oil or other feedstock
+ 20 lbs. of methanol =
100 lbs. biodiesel + 20 lbs. glycerin

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