

# Press Release

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*... from the Illinois House of Representatives*

**For Immediate Release:  
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**For More Information:  
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## **MAY HOSTS ETHANOL/CLEAN FUEL SUMMIT**

*Legislator working to clean up environment and provide opportunity for local government*

**HIGHLAND PARK-** State Rep. Karen May hosted an Ethanol/Clean Fuel Summit today at the Highland Park Recreational Center in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and the Illinois Farm Bureau today to provide local municipalities and park districts with an opportunity to learn about assistance that is available through the state and federal government to obtain E85 gas pumps, an alternative fuel rebate program, and to help local governments in their efforts to buy into state contracts for hybrid vehicles.

“The use of E85 or ethanol fuel is not only beneficial for the environment, but it supports Illinois farmers, and is crucial to the growth and prosperity of our economy. Unfortunately, E85 fuel pumps are very expensive, and our communities do not have access to them,” May said. “This summit will enable our local municipalities to learn about grants to assist them in purchasing pumps capable of distributing this environmentally-friendly fuel, and help municipalities obtain information regarding state contracts for hybrid vehicles, which will save local governments money in addition to promoting a clean and healthy environment.”

May held her summit to assist local municipalities and park districts by providing them with presentations regarding grants that are available through the state to help them purchase costly Ehtanol/E85 gas pumps. This fuel is energy efficient, safer for the environment than regular gasoline, consumer friendly, and produced by Illinois farmers. However, the closest E85 fuel pump is in Arlington Heights, preventing our communities from utilizing this fuel for municipal vehicles. May’s event also offered local governments the opportunity to learn about how they can buy into state contracts for hybrid vehicles. Information was provided by DCEO and the Illinois Farm Bureau.

“As an advocate for cleaner water, fresh air and healthier lifestyles for our children and families, I was pleased to provide our municipalities and park districts with this important information, and I am grateful to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the Illinois Farm Bureau for their assistance,” May said. “If we are to ensure that our economy grows in a way that is environmentally sound, legislators must work with state agencies and Illinois residents to ensure that the latest technology is being utilized, and that this technology is available and accessible.”

Rep. May was also “adopted” by the Piatt County Farm Bureau to foster understanding of issues facing Illinois farmers. For more information, please call May at (847) 831-5858.

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