



# **The Benefits of Biomass**

**Bill Holmberg**

**Chair, Biomass Coordinating Council**

**American Council On Renewable Energy**

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of vibrant green maple leaves. The leaves are layered, with some in the foreground being more in focus than others in the background. The lighting is bright, creating a fresh and natural feel. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# **Biomass is a HEAVY hitter**

- **Creates new basic industries**
- **Creates quality jobs**
- **Reduces the effects of climate change**
- **Puts humans in touch with nature – you should hug a tree once in a while**

A cluster of vibrant green maple leaves is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the text. The leaves are bright and detailed, showing their characteristic lobed shape and vein structure. The background is a plain, light color.

# **The world's three major carbon sinks**

- **Trees and plants**
- **Soil**
- **Ocean**

**Biomass plays a role in all three**



***Biomass is found everywhere***

**It is ubiquitous, egalitarian and can be used by anyone who can learn important basics and who can obtain the right set of tools**



# **Bioenergy encompasses:**

- **Biofuel**
- **Biopower**
- **Biothermal energy**
- **Biofertilizers**
- **Biobased products**



***All biomass industries are  
inseparable***

**and they are all dependant on  
optimized land use, vitalized soil and  
adequate water resources**

The background of the slide features a collage of vibrant green maple leaves on the left side, with several US dollar bills (including \$100 and \$20) faintly visible behind them. The right side of the slide is plain white.

# **We must promote the growth of biomass with:**

- **Fast-growing trees**
- **Mineralized compost**
- **Remineralization of soils**
- **Biochar**
- **Biobased fertilizers**

A cluster of vibrant green maple leaves is positioned in the upper-left corner of the slide, partially overlapping the text. The leaves are bright and detailed, showing their characteristic lobed shape and vein structure. The background of the slide is a plain, light color.

# **We must also promote a greater human dimension in forests**

- **Utilize selected prisoners**
- **Involve at-risk youth**
- **Tap the growing interest in State Conservation Corps**





# **We must use every plot of land available to grow and nurture biomass.**

**Using the Western European model, we must utilize:**

- Rights of way – rail, power lines, highway and roads**
- All appropriate Public Lands**
- All commercial and private lands to provide shade, cooling and water retention**
- Promote backyard, school yard and roof top gardens**



**The definition of biomass must include both federal and state forests, and**

- **Include any tree taken to improve the health of a forest and wildlife habitat**
- **Bio-residues and waste in any form**

A decorative background of vibrant green maple leaves, some showing signs of being eaten or damaged, set against a white background. The leaves are concentrated on the left side of the slide, with some extending towards the center.

**We must promote programs which encourage people and families to visit rural and forested areas**

- **By promoting ecotourism and agrotourism**
- **To see farms and private lands**
- **To get involved in hunting, fishing, bird and wildlife watching**
- **To improve the economics of rural America**