



**MEDIA ADVISORY:**

June 27, 2016

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

**Thorntons Inc.**

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**MEDIA PHOTO OPPORTUNITY:**

**Senator Bill Cunningham, along with Other Organizations Supporting Renewable Fuels, to Visit Thorntons in Oak Lawn**

*Newly-converted store offers Unleaded<sup>15</sup>™ and E-85 fuel options*

**WHAT |** Senator Bill Cunningham, Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, will be on site at the newly-converted, Thorntons store in Oak Lawn, Illinois to celebrate the introduction of Unleaded<sup>15</sup> Thorntons branded E15 fueling option, and E-85 at the pumps.

**WHEN |** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 2 p.m.

**WHERE | Thorntons**

9138 South Cicero Ave.

Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

**WHO |** State Senator, Bill Cunningham

Matthew Nichols, Project Manager of Biofuels, Thorntons

The above will making short remarks on the importance of biofuel growth in the Chicago area and why the introduction of Thorntons Unleaded<sup>15</sup> fuel is so important. There will also be a guided tour for media following the remarks.

**The following people will also be on-site and available for interviews:**

- Kelly Burke, Illinois Representative Kelly Burke
- Jeff Jarboe, President of Illinois Corn Growers
- Greg Webb, Vice President of State Government Relations at Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM)
- John DeRosa, Environmental Program Director from the American Lung Association in Illinois
- Bailey Arnold, Manager of Clean Air at American Lung Association in Illinois
- Kent Kleinschmidt President of Tazewell County Farm Bureau

**MORE |** As part of Thorntons recent commitment to invest in renewable fuels in Illinois, this store is one of 43 locations in Illinois that are being converted to sell both E-85 and Unleaded<sup>15</sup>. This

initiative is part of the Biofuels Infrastructure Partnership Program funded by USDA. The American Lung Association will be on-site from 2-4 p.m. handing out coupons for \$2 off each E-85 or Unleaded<sup>15</sup> purchase at Thorntons.

Unleaded<sup>15</sup> (up to 15% ethanol, 85% gasoline) provides an octane rating of 88, and is the most widely-tested fuel ever introduced to consumers. It contains approximately 15% ethanol, and is approved by the EPA for use in model year 2001 or newer cars, light duty trucks, SUV's and Flex Fuel™ vehicles. This fuel typically costs less than regular Unleaded, and is believed to deliver better performance and fewer harmful emissions.

Unleaded<sup>15</sup> differs from E85, in that E85 is a Flex Fuel that is a mixture of up to 85% ethanol and 15% petroleum. Ethanol is a renewable fuel source that reduces harmful environmental emissions and provides multiple economic benefits. Today, the vast majority of domestic ethanol is produced from corn, an abundant and renewable grain. This renewable fuel source helps to reduce carbon emissions, helps promote cleaner air, boosts the United States economy, creates jobs, and reduces foreign oil imports.

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**About Thorntons Inc.:**

Founded by James Thornton in 1971, the company has been recognized as one of the top independent convenience store chains in the nation. Based in Louisville, Kentucky, Thorntons currently operates 181 stores that provide fresh foods, high quality beverages and fuel in six states: Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and Florida. Thorntons' mission is not only to provide top of the line food and beverages, but makes giving back a top priority in every market. Learn more about Thorntons by visiting [www.thorntonsinc.com](http://www.thorntonsinc.com) and follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/thorntonsinc](https://www.facebook.com/thorntonsinc) and Twitter at [www.twitter.com/thorntonsinc](https://www.twitter.com/thorntonsinc).

**About Refreshing Rewards®:**

Launched in 2014, Thorntons Refreshing Rewards® is a customer loyalty program that provides guests with discounts on gas and rewards based on the number of visits, not the dollar amount spent. More than 1,000,000 Reward® card users are already registered. Learn more about Thorntons Refreshing Rewards® at [www.thorntonsinc.com](http://www.thorntonsinc.com).

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