## Trade and Consumer Protection Department of Agriculture,

## **Nomination Period Open for Organic Advisory Council**

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Media Contact: Rick Hummell, Senior Communications Specialist 608-224-5041 rickhummell@wi.gov

MADISON – The Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council has five openings for individuals interested in shaping the future of organic farming and food in Wisconsin. Nominations are due March 14, 2019.

The five openings include seats in each of the following categories: organic farmer (two), business, consumer, and at-large. Members serve three-year terms, and the council meets quarterly.

"Wisconsin's organic industry is strong and full of opportunities for producers, processors, and consumers," said Angie Sullivan, organics and grazing specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). "The council provides important guidance and is a great way for individuals to support the industry."

Nomination materials are available online at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/OrganicAdvisoryCouncil.aspx

Applicants should explain why they would be valuable additions to the council and include two letters of support. Completed applications should be sent to: Angie Sullivan, WI DATCP, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708, or emailed to Angie.Sullivan@Wisconsin.gov. Call 608-224-5095 with questions.

Nominees will be evaluated by a committee, and approved by DATCP Secretary Brad Pfaff and the DATCP Board. New members will be seated at the July 2019 Organic Advisory Council meeting.

The Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council's purpose is to give guidance to the governor, DATCP, the Wisconsin Legislature and other state or federal agencies about actions that could further Wisconsin's organic agriculture industry. Council members represent the spectrum of Wisconsin's organic industry and include:

- Three certified organic farmers, preferably reflecting several types of farms (dairy, vegetable, etc.).
- Three organic business sector representatives.
- One representative of organic consumers.
- One representative of a private, non-profit educational organization involved in organic agriculture.
- One representative of the certification industry.
- Three at-large members.

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