## **Deadline Nears for Organic Advisory Council Nominations**

Release Date: February 18, 2013 Contact: Ashley Andre (*Huibregtse*), 608-224-5002 Jim Dick, Communications Director, 608-224-5020

MADISON – There are four open seats for an organic farmer, an organic business, a consumer representative and an 'at-large' position on the Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) announced a reminder today that nominations are due by March 8.

The Organic Advisory Council works to promote Wisconsin's national leadership in organic agriculture. The Council advises government agencies and organizations on critical issues as well as provides support for organic production, processing and purchasing opportunities.

Council members serve a three-year term and are eligible to serve more than one term. The Council meets quarterly.

A nomination includes a short two-page application form and two letters of support. The application is available at <a href="http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Organic\_Farming/Advisory\_Council">http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Organic\_Farming/Advisory\_Council</a>. Completed applications must be mailed, emailed or faxed to DATCP's Laura Paine by the deadline.

A committee will evaluate nominations. Those selected will be approved by the DATCP Secretary and Agriculture Board before beginning to serve at the Council's July meeting.

For more information or a copy of the application, contact Laura Paine at 608-224-5120 or <a href="mailto:laura.paine@wi.gov">laura.paine@wi.gov</a>. The next meeting of the Organic Advisory Council is planned for March 18.

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