

# National Organic Coalition

*The Progressive Organic Voice in DC*



## What is the National Organic Coalition (NOC)?



*The National Organic Coalition (NOC) represents the progressive organic community voice in Washington D.C. We seek to establish organic as the foundation of food and agricultural production systems across the U.S. NOC is comprised of farmers and farm organizations, consumer and environmental non-profits, and progressive businesses dedicated to organic integrity.*

NOC was formed in 2003 to strengthen the voice of organic family farmers and the broader organic community in federal policy making to influence:

- USDA's National Organic Program (NOP)
- Annual Federal Budgeting Process
- National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
- Farm Bill

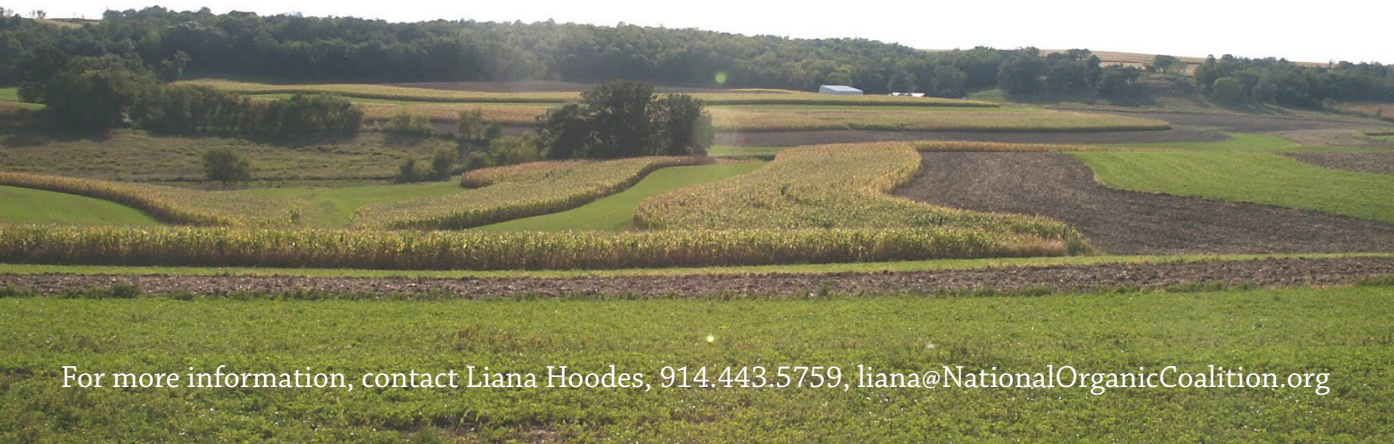
Our power and influence is evident. The NOC brand is well-known, well-respected, and affords us increased access to government decision-makers. As a strong and trusted coalition, we push for organic integrity and facilitate long-lasting change in support of organic agriculture.

## What Unique Role Does NOC Play in Enhancing Organic Integrity?

What organic integrity means to NOC is strong, enforceable, and continuously improved standards to maximize the multiple health, environmental, and economic benefits that only organic agriculture affords.

On behalf of progressive organic farmers, food producers and retailers of all sizes, as well as consumer and environmental groups, NOC:

- Brings together diverse organic stakeholders to share information and create opportunities for collaboration;
- Offers government agencies and Congress innovative policy solutions to challenging issues;
- Engages the wider organic community to advocate on its own behalf;
- Shows up — our members testify at federal government hearings and agency meetings across the U.S. each time organic issues are discussed or organic integrity is threatened.



## Why Should You Support NOC?

Not everyone has the capacity to follow the many important national policy debates that affect the organic community — from NOP rulemaking and the Food Safety Modernization Act, to the Farm Bill and the genetic engineering of food. When you donate to NOC you can rest assured that a strong and progressive organic voice is persistently working to protect organic integrity.

Since its inception NOC has been influential in:

- Doubling the NOP budget and staff.
- Appointing USDA NOP Director and key policy advisors with a thorough knowledge of organic food production and processing systems and a commitment to the advancement of organic agriculture and integrity.
- Publishing the final Organic Pasture Rule to ensure stringent organic livestock and poultry management throughout an animal's lifecycle.
- Activating informed and widespread public participation in organic policy-making.
- Increasing organic integrity within the organic standards by supporting ecologically-based animal welfare practices; preserving and improving biodiversity, prohibiting cloned animals in food, banning nanotechnology; and carefully considering all materials used in organic production based upon foundational organic principles.
- Raising awareness about the threat of contamination to organic by genetically engineered (GE) organisms.
- Creating a *National Organic Action Plan* (NOAP) – a roadmap for change that reflects the broad social, environmental, and health values inherent in organic.
- And more...

As a NOC Network Subscriber you will receive regular policy updates and NOC action alerts.

*NOC donations are tax-deductible through our fiscal sponsor,  
Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI-USA),  
Make checks payable to: RAFI-USA, PO Box 640, Pittsboro, NC 27312*