



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Oregon Organic Coalition Announces Organically Grown in Oregon Week**

***Governor Brown has officially proclaimed September 11th-17th Organically Grown in Oregon Week in recognition of Oregon's thriving organic industry.***

PORTLAND, OR - July 15, 2016

The Oregon Organic Coalition (OOC) is pleased to announce that Governor Kate Brown has officially declared the dates for Organically Grown in Oregon Week (OGOW) for September 11th-17th, 2016. This week-long celebration of Oregon's organic agriculture and industry will be highlighted by the presentation of the 2016 OOC Awards for Excellence Luncheon on Tuesday, September 13th, at the Ecotrust Building in Portland, OR.

The OOC is now calling for nominations to recognize outstanding members of the organic trade in the following categories:

Farm: Crops (organization)  
Farm: Livestock (organization)  
Farm worker (organization)  
Farm worker (individual)  
Processor (organization)  
Wholesaler (organization)  
Consumer Advocacy (organization)

Organic Policy Analyst (individual)  
Environment & Health (organization)  
Certifier (organization)  
Retailer (organization)  
Scientist (individual)  
Organic Advocate (individual)

[Nomination forms](#) can be found on the website, as well as information on specific events and promotional support materials! The deadline to submit nominations is August 1st. Visit [www.oregonorganiccoalition.org](http://www.oregonorganiccoalition.org) or email [info@oregonorganiccoalition.org](mailto:info@oregonorganiccoalition.org)

### **About Organically Grown in Oregon Week**

Organically Grown in Oregon Week is a tradition that began in 1988 as a means for celebrating Oregon's organic industry and recognizing the leaders of Oregon's organic movement.

[The Governor's proclamation](#) highlights the rapidly expanding organic sector of Oregon's agricultural economy. In the proclamation, Governor Brown also acknowledges the state's unique stature as a leader in organic agriculture, highlighted by the first organic standards legislation in 1973, the first published organic certification standards in 1987, and the establishment of the first statewide advocacy group - the Oregon

Organic Coalition - to help promote the organic industry. Organic agriculture is a vital segment of Oregon's economy with 525 certified organic farms, which brought in over \$237 million in farm-gate sales in 2015, with nearly 12% projected growth.

Many Oregon businesses, organizations and retailers will be celebrating OGOW with exciting events like farm tours, wine tastings, and special promotions. If you're interested in hosting an OGOW event or would like more information on sponsorship or promotional materials, email [skraker@organicgrown.com](mailto:skraker@organicgrown.com) or call 541-246-1856.

### **OOC Membership helps strengthen organic policy in Oregon**

The OOC is a 501(c)(6), organic trade membership organization. Membership with the OOC has numerous benefits, but most importantly, it offers the opportunity for members from the various sectors of Oregon's organic industry to collaborate, acting as a galvanizing force, bringing a unified vision and representation to our communities and Oregon's legislative process through awareness of, and advocacy for, organic policy in the state. By supporting the efforts of the OOC, the organic community can build more awareness of the positive economic, social and environmental impacts of Oregon's organic industry, as well as effect change through cultivating and supporting measures that protect organic integrity and businesses in Oregon. Read more about OOC initiatives on the [website](#).

### **Sponsor OGOW and be recognized as a leader in Oregon's organic industry!**

Revenue from members and supporters is key to the work of the OOC. Your contribution to the OOC supports the celebration of OGOW, as well as the OOC's year-round work as an organic trade advocacy group. Any level of sponsorship is appreciated, and the OOC offers promotional benefits for businesses and individuals. The greatest benefit of your support is helping the OOC further its mission to advocate for and promote Oregon's organic trade! Learn more about sponsorship opportunities on the [website](#).

### **About the Oregon Organic Coalition**

The Oregon Organic Coalition (OOC) is a trade support organization, working to advance the development and growth of the organic industry and community in Oregon. The OOC consists of a wide array of key players in Oregon's organic industry who volunteer their time and energy—from farmers to wholesalers and processors, as well as organic certifiers, scientists, consumers and retailers. The OOC acts as an organizing body, providing direction and endorsement of activities in promotion of Oregon's organic trade, such as the re-enlivening of OGOW every September and advocating for continued federal support for organic research at Oregon State University.

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