



# Briefing Notice

## Grow Organic: The Climate, Health, and Economic Case for Expanding Organic Agriculture

Thursday, March 23, 2023

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM EST

Please RSVP to receive updates: [eesi.org/022823ag](https://eesi.org/022823ag)  
Live webcast will be streamed at: [www.eesi.org/livecast](https://www.eesi.org/livecast)

The **Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI)** and the **Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)** invite you to a briefing on expanding organic agriculture. Organic agriculture is a time-tested, scientifically-supported approach to farming and ranching that centers ecological diversity, soil fertility, and natural systems rather than chemical interventions. The briefing will feature the firsthand experience of organic farmers and findings from NRDC's new report, [Grow Organic: The Climate, Health, and Economic Case for Expanding Organic Agriculture](#).

As Congress crafts the next reauthorization of the [Farm Bill](#), this briefing will cover how federal policies can support the expansion of organic farming and ranching. Recommendations include reducing barriers to scaling up organic agriculture, ramping up federal resources for organic agriculture, and ensuring just and equitable participation, especially for Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Panelists will describe how these steps can provide benefits to the climate, health, and local economies.

Introductory remarks:

- **Representative Jimmy Panetta** (D-Calif.)

Panelists:

- **Allison Johnson**, Senior Attorney, Health & Food, Healthy People & Thriving Communities Program, Natural Resources Defense Council
- **Kathleen Merrigan**, Executive Director, Swette Center for Sustainable Food Systems; Kelly and Brian Swette Professor of Sustainable Food Systems, Arizona State University
- **Nate Powell-Palm**, Owner, Cold Springs Organics in Montana
- **Nayamin Martinez**, Director, Central California Environmental Justice Network
- **Wendy Johnson**, Farmer, Jóia Food & Fiber Farm

**This event is free and open to the public.**

For more information, contact Daniel O'Brien at [dobrien@eesi.org](mailto:dobrien@eesi.org) or (202) 662-1880.

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