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**MEDIA ADVISORY FOR**  
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## **New York City Rally in the City! Keep the Soil in Organic!**

The USDA National Organic Standards Board is about to vote on whether or not they will allow organic certification of hydroponics during their next meeting, which will take place October 29 - November 4. NOFA-NY is not against hydroponic systems, we just don't believe they are organic systems – and they should not carry the organic certification label.#

To reduce organic production to simply the input of a few nutrients that are needed by a plant is to deny the definition of organic as a complex ecological system. Soil systems create and sustain the life of organic food and are not dependent on continual infusion of the nutrients that plants need to grow. In fact, as organic soils improve over the years, it becomes more and more necessary to consider the soil ecology rather than the specific needs of any one plant. Urban farms are taking back the soil and bringing justice to our food system by nurturing both the earth and our communities. #

**When: Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4:30-7pm**

**Where:** Project Farmhouse, [76 East 13th Street, New York, NY 10003](#)

**Who:** The Public! And David Chapman (NOFA-VT), Jack Algieri (Stone Barns), Liana Hoodes (NOFA-NY), Qiana Mickie (Just Food), Onika Abraham (Farm School NYC), Lisa Stokke (Next7.org) and Andrianna Natsoulas, Moderator (NOFA-NY).

Our goal is to rally support for protecting the integrity of organics. Through an interactive discussion with experts in the field, people will learn about the importance of healthy soils to grow foods, whether in an urban or rural farm. For more information on [Keep the Soil in Organic](#) and [NOFA-NY](#).

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NOFA-NY is farmers, gardeners, and consumers working together to create a sustainable regional food system that's ecologically sound and economically viable.