

Providing the members' voice to Farm Bureau's policy development process.



A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

Ohio Farm Bureau | ofb.org

THE EIGHT TEAMS WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING POLICY AND ISSUE AREAS:

Farm policy and business sustainability | business sustainability; taxes; farm policy; rural and economic development; property rights

Labor, transportation and energy | workforce needs; infrastructure; development; rules and regulations

Environment | air quality; water quality, quantity and usage; wildlife; nutrient management; natural resources

Workforce development and education | ag education (FFA, 4-H, Ag in the Classroom); consumer outreach and awareness; university engagement; OSU College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences; school funding; Jobs Ohio; manufacturers; chambers of commerce; independent businesses

Livestock, food and nutrition | food safety; consumer trust; food availability; nutrition; animal health; plant health

Health care and safety | insurance; Medicare/Medicaid costs; affordability; availability; rural health care; hospitals; workers' compensation; farm safety; wellness; mobile health applications; illegal and counterfeit drugs; behavior; rural quality of life

Food chain | farm to fork issues involving restaurants, grocers, retailers, transportation, agribusiness, distributors, processors, manufacturers, importers and food safety (ideal candidates would be Farm Bureau members who are engaged in owning, operating and/or managing one or more of these food and agriculture sectors)

Consumers | trust; labeling; information; ethics; science; technology; economics; perception of food, farming and agriculture (ideal candidates would be associate members)

OHIO FARM BUREAU ISSUE ADVISORY TEAMS

Your grassroots involvement helps enhance Ohio agriculture.

OHIO FARM BUREAU®

WHAT ARE ISSUE ADVISORY TEAMS?

Issue Advisory Teams provide Farm Bureau members the opportunity to identify research and engage in discussion with peers on those issues important to the team. As part of the process, team members may review, discuss, draft and recommend new policies, programming or activities needed related to their team.

New for 2015-2016, advisory teams will be issue-based, rather than commodity-based as they have been in the past. The intent of the change is to strengthen OFBF's policy development and implementation process through an issue-driven exchange built upon member engagement. Other Issue Advisory Teams may be added as issues surface.



WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THE ISSUE ADVISORY TEAMS?

Anyone who can:

- Be passionate and knowledgeable about their team's issues.
- Work with county leaders to identify local issues, while also representing agriculture from across the state.
- Accept a leadership role to promote diverse food and agricultural issues.
- Become active in the policy development process.
- Represent their industry as a leader.
- Communicate effectively, including using Internet and email.

AS AN ISSUE ADVISORY TEAM MEMBER, WHAT WILL I DO?

- Recommend topics and speakers for meetings relevant to team issues via email.
- Serve the OFBF member and provide the voice of the member to the OFBF policy process.
- Explore and voice important issues relating to your team and bring them to the attention of the chairperson and team for discussion on the agenda.
- Review current OFBF policy as it relates to your team.
- Attend and participate in the Trends & Issues Conference and the Advisory Team meeting.
- Provide input on issues which come before the team.
- Develop and recommend to the Ohio Farm Bureau Policy Development Committee policies related to their Advisory Team.
- Recommend programming or activities relating to their team to OFBF staff and possibly the OFBF board of trustees.
- Observe and/or participate in the OFBF annual meeting through being a delegate or observer of the delegate body during the policy development process.
- Suggest ways to involve OFBF members in the implementation of policies adopted by the delegates at the OFBF annual meeting.
- Foster routine communication with county policy development chair and committee.
- Meet with the county Farm Bureau president, Public Policy Action Team leader and possibly the county board of trustees to provide an update of the discussion following the Advisory Team meeting.



WHAT KIND OF COMMITMENT WILL I NEED TO MAKE?

Issue Advisory Team members are appointed for a two-year term. Teams will meet once per year and may be called upon to attend other meetings or provide input pertinent to their team as the need arises.



HOW DO I APPLY?

To obtain an application:

- Call your county Farm Bureau
- Call OFBF at 614-246-8247
- Visit ofbf.org and click on *Get Involved* then *Advisory Teams*

