



## **2016 NATIONAL VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE**

*Agriculture, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship:  
Developing Thriving Rural Communities*

**July 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**  
**in Madison, Wisconsin**  
Park Hotel (formerly Inn on the Park)

### **CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual National Value Added Agriculture Conference, hosted in Madison, Wisconsin on July 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, will feature current issues that impact value added food and agriculture. Conference participants will have the opportunity to interact with industry leaders from the Upper Midwest and from around the United States. We seek high quality presentations that will stimulate, inspire, motivate, and advance knowledge of and practices related to value added food and agriculture.

The 2016 National Value Added Agriculture Conference is hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection & University of Wisconsin – Dane County Extension.

#### **Who Should Submit**

Technical assistance service providers; business owners and operators; entrepreneurs; consultants; local, state, and federal policy makers; food policy professionals; farmers; university extension specialists; economic developers; industry associations; etc.

#### **Focus Topic Areas**

This year we will be focusing on innovation and entrepreneurship as tools for economic development in rural communities. Other topics that will be discussed include economic development, food waste, food safety, marketing, policy, local & regional food systems, labor issues, alternative energy, technology, aquaponics, processing, distribution, and more.

#### **Submission Guidelines**

In 300 words or less, please describe your presentation, including purpose, audience, and objectives. Please also include: your name, email, and affiliation; co-presenters, if applicable; title of presentation; and type of presentation (round table, workshop, panel, etc.). Sessions can range from 30 – 90 minutes with 75 minutes being the preference.

**The deadline for submission is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.**

Please submit your abstract to the Conference Co-Chair, Kietra Olson, at [Kietra.Olson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Kietra.Olson@wisconsin.gov) with the subject line: NVA Conference Abstract Submission

**Conference information online and registration link:**

<http://www.agmrc.org/national-value-added-agriculture-conference/>

**Thank you for your participation. We look forward to seeing you in Madison, Wisconsin!**