**BFN**/**Mass**// **Advisory Team Member Application**

The Beginning Farmer Network of Massachusetts (BFN/Mass) is a collaborative network of farmers and farm service providers dedicated to beginning farmer success in MA.

We need **BEGINNING FARMERS** and **FARM SERVICE PROVIDERS** to join our **Advisory Team**.

**Please tell us about yourself:**

1. **I am a (please circle one):** BEGINNING FARMER SERVICE PROVIDER
2. **Tell us about your background/work (**if you’re a farmer, how many years have you been farming and what do you grow? If you’re a service provider, what kind of services do you provide/where do you work?):
3. **What region of Massachusetts are you based in**? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. **I am interested in serving as a member of the Advisory Team because:**
5. **I will bring the following unique and relevant qualifications to this position:**

**In 2015-2016, BFN/Mass is focusing on:**

* Conducting a comprehensive assessment and analysis of Beginning Farmer resources in Massachusetts – we’ll find out what exists, where the holes are, and determine how we can work together to better support new farmers so that they start farming, and stay farming
* Hosting and co-hosting participatory gatherings for farmers and service providers
* Connecting with Beginning Farmer communities and allies across the state and region
* Supporting the development of task forces devoted to tackling specific issues
* Building a stronger digital presence and online resource database

**If I am selected to join the Advisory Team, I understand that I will be expected to:**

* Provide input and expertise to help guide BFN’s research and organizing work
* Play an advisory role to help the Leadership Team make strategic decisions about BFN’s direction, structure, policies, and membership
* Commit to serving a one year term (June 2015 – June 2016)
* Contribute 2-5 hours/month towards network activities
* Attend and actively engage in face-to-face meetings 1-2 times/year and quarterly virtual meetings
* Volunteer to take on specific roles, jobs, and projects
* Complete assigned tasks according to agreed-up timelines
* Attend at least one BFN/Mass sponsored or co-sponsored events per year
* Act as an ambassador and conduct outreach to promote and advocate for BFN
* Communicate about my BFN activities with the Coordinator and Advisory Team

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, wish to apply to serve on the BFN/Mass Advisory Team in 2015-2016, and I understand the above stated expectations and responsibilities required of this position.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_