

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact Information

American Pecan Council

817-916-0020

info@americanpecan.com

## **Opportunity to Lead the American Pecan Council**

*USDA Seeks Nominees for Council Seats*

Fort Worth, TX – The American Pecan Council, the federal marketing order working to increase the demand and value of U.S. pecans, is pleased to invite nominations for new members to serve a four-year term of office beginning on October 1, 2024. Seats are currently open for five growers, three shellers, one accumulator and one public member, as well as their respective alternate seats.

Producers and shellers can request a form by contacting [forms@americanpecan.com](mailto:forms@americanpecan.com) or visiting <https://americanpecan.com/industry-news>.

“The American Pecan Council is working to quickly and assertively expand the position of U.S. pecans, and it’s critical that we have strong leaders at the Council table to direct this growth,” said Anne Warden, CEO of the APC. “Whether its supporting exports or building demand for pecans here at home, a diverse set of Council members ensures we keep the APC’s work centered on what’s best for the entire industry’s success.”

Nominations will be accepted through April 1, 2024. Ballots with nominees will then be mailed to eligible voters May 1, 2024, and must be received by June 15, 2024.

“Serving on the Council has been an incredible opportunity to connect with industry members across the country and stand up for the industry I love,” said Larry Don Womack, Chairman of the American Pecan Council. “We’ve got a top-notch staff and strong marketing programs, but it’s essential that we have new members who bring fresh perspective and a unique view of the challenges and opportunities we face.”

To be eligible to serve, a grower or producer is one who produce a minimum of 50,000 pounds of inshell pecans during a representative period (2020-2023) or who own a minimum of 30 pecan acres. Sheller refers to any person who converts inshell pecans to shelled pecans and sells the output in any and all markets in the stream of commerce, both within and outside of the production area; Provided, That the term “sheller” shall only include those who shell more than 1 million pounds of inshell pecans in a fiscal year. Accumulator means a person who compiles inshell pecans from other persons for the purpose of resale or transfer. The public member and alternate public member may not have any financial interest, individually or corporately, or affiliation with persons vested in the pecan industry.

For nomination information, contact the Council Chief Executive Officer Anne Warden at (817) 916-0200 or by email at [awarden@americanpecan.com](mailto:awarden@americanpecan.com), or USDA Marketing Specialist Abigail Maharaj at (863) 324-3375 or by email at [Abigail.Mahraj@usda.gov](mailto:Abigail.Mahraj@usda.gov).

The Council consists of nine grower members, six sheller members, one accumulator member, and one public member. Each member will have one alternate. More information about the Council is available

on the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) [American Pecan Council](#) webpage or on the Councils website at [americanpecan.com](http://americanpecan.com).

Authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, marketing orders are industry-driven programs that help producers and handlers achieve marketing success by leveraging their own funds to design and execute programs that they would not be able to do individually.

**About the American Pecan Council**

The American Pecan Council (APC) is a group of passionate pecan growers and shellers whose life work is dedicated to growing, harvesting and processing America's native nut.

Founded in 2016 through a Federal Marketing Order, the APC's mission is to promote the many benefits of the American Pecan and help tell the story of this truly unique nut. With oversight by the USDA, APC aims to build consumer demand, develop markets and establish industry standards. APC is based in Fort Worth, Texas, and funded by pecan handlers in 15 pecan-producing states: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas. To learn more visit [www.AmericanPecan.com](http://www.AmericanPecan.com).