



## 2026 Grow Your Own Groceries Conference

Conway Expo & Event Center  
2505 East Oak St, Conway, AR  
February 10, 2026

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### 8:00-9:00 AM

Registration & Visit Educational Tables

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### 9:00-9:50 AM

#### Room 1:

- *Growing in High Tunnels* — Taunya Ernst, High Tunnel and Urban Agriculture Educator

#### Room 2:

- *Planning for an Abundant Harvest* — Krista Quinn, Faulkner County Extension Agent

#### Room 3:

- *Nurturing Your Soil* — Sherri Sanders, White County Extension Agent

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### 10:00-10:50 AM

#### Room 1:

- *Hydroponic Vegetable Production* — Derek Reed, Pulaski County Extension Agent

#### Room 2:

- *Food Preservation Methods* — Extension Food Preservation Team

#### Room 3:

- *Getting Started with Beekeeping* — Dr. Jon Zawislak, Assistant Professor of Apiculture and Urban Entomology

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### 11:00-11:50 AM

#### Room 1:

- *Using Cover Crops in the Garden* — Dr. Trenton Roberts, Professor of Soil Fertility and Soil Testing

#### Room 2:

- *Composting* — Colin Massey, Washington County Extension Agent

#### Room 3:

- *Setting Up a Drip Irrigation System* — Ryan Neal, Benton County Extension Agent
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**12:00–1:20 PM**

**Lunch & Keynote Presentation**

*Pick and Plant: Plant Talk with Janet Carson and Randy Forst*

Get ready to dig into some gardening fun with a lively presentation inspired by the classic humor and charm of the long-running radio show, *Car Talk with the Tappet Brothers*! Former Arkansas Master Gardener program coordinator and beloved gardening guru **Janet Carson** joins forces with **Randy Forst**, the current Master Gardener program coordinator, for a dynamic and down-to-earth conversation about growing your own edible plants at home.

Like the Tappet Brothers under the hood, Janet and Randy will “diagnose” your garden woes, swap stories from the soil, and share expert tips for getting the most out of your backyard bounty. From juicy tomatoes to fragrant herbs, they’ll cover some of their favorite crops to plant, care for, and—of course—enjoy at the table. Along the way, expect plenty of laughs, a few gardening “mishaps” retold with good humor, and even a tasty recipe or two straight from their own kitchens.

Whether you’re a seasoned gardener or just thinking about planting your first tomato, this session promises to be equal parts entertaining and educational—where the advice is sound, the humor is homegrown, and the plants are always greener on *their* side!

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**1:30–2:20 PM**

**Room 1:**

- *Using Cover Crops in the Garden* — Dr. Trenton Roberts, Professor of Soil Fertility and Soil Testing

**Room 2:**

- *Composting* — Colin Massey, Washington County Extension Agent

**Room 3:**

- *Setting Up a Drip Irrigation System* — Ryan Neal, Benton County Extension Agent

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**2:30–3:20 PM**

**Room 1:**

- *Hydroponic Vegetable Production* — Derek Reed, Pulaski County Extension Agent

**Room 2:**

- *Food Preservation Methods* — Extension Food Preservation Team

**Room 3:**

- *Getting Started with Beekeeping* — Dr. Jon Zawislak, Assistant Professor of Apiculture and Urban Entomology

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**3:30–4:20 PM**

**Room 1:**

- *Growing in High Tunnels* — Taunya Ernst, High Tunnel and Urban Agriculture Educator

**Room 2:**

- *Planning for an Abundant Harvest* — Krista Quinn, Faulkner County Extension Agent

**Room 3:**

- *Nurturing Your Soil* — Sherri Sanders, White County Extension Agent

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture is an equal opportunity institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate or need materials in another format, please contact the Faulkner County Extension Office at 501-329-8344 as soon as possible. Dial 711 for Arkansas Relay.