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Providing Organic Education Since 1993

Calling All Backyard Growers & Homesteaders

1ST ANNUAL
**HARVEST
CONFERENCE**
savor the abundance
September 5-6



Same great education—
another great time of year!

Organic Growers School Presents the Long-Awaited Harvest Conference

FEATURING CLASSES ON COOL-SEASON GROWING, FERMENTING & PRESERVATION, HOME COOKING, HOMESTEADING SKILLS & SELF-RELIANCE, AND WILD IDEAS!

Date: September 5&6, 2014

Friday: Pre Conference Workshops, both half & whole day, @Warren Wilson College. [Read class descriptions here.](#)

Saturday: 24+ classes in 6 tracks, seed & plant exchange, and trade show, @AB Tech Asheville Campus. [Read class descriptions here.](#)

Organic Growers School is thrilled to announce our **1st Annual Harvest Conference**, a fall event featuring all the popularity of the Spring Conference with a focus on the fall growing season, harvesting, canning, growing, gardening, energy, cooking, and more... all organically, of course. We pride ourselves on bringing you down-to-earth advice on growing and sustainable living while remaining affordable and accessible.

**Keynote Address with
Author & Naturalist Janisse Ray**

SATURDAY 8PM, FERGUSON AUDITORIUM, AB TECH ASHEVILLE

A Field Guide to Hope



More and more it seems that looming threats are underlying our days. Being up against the giants of climate change, corporate rule, and genetic modification affects everything we do. Yet across the country, and without fanfare, folks are reclaiming biodiversity, local food, and community. Janisse offers stories of big movements and little, individuals and towns, to remind us why we're doing this important work and inspire us that we're not alone. When we hear real-life stories, whether of success or failure, they are a powerful and profound guide to help us gather strength and carry on renewed. Join us for this artful convergence of life, truth, and community as we remember together how to give thanks.

Early Bird Registration ends 7/15, so REGISTER NOW!

READY to ENJOY the HARVEST?
[Register online here.](#)

Questions? Comments?
 Reply to this email, call Jenn Cloke at 828.564.1179,
 or email jenn@organicgrowersschool.org

Friday Pre-Conference Workshops

Read About Our Full & Half-Day Classes



**Wild Mushrooms,
 A Magical Mystery Tour**
 with [Alan Muskat](#)
 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM & 2:00 PM
 – 5:00 PM.
 \$35 until 7/15

**Wild Abundance:
 Reliance on the
 Foods Around Us**
 with [Natalie Bogwalker](#)
 2:00 PM – 5:30 PM
 \$35 until 7/15



**Magic Drinks:
 Super Natural Sodas &
 Fermented Brews**
 with [Marc Williams](#)
 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
 \$35 until 7/15

**Speaking of Nature:
 Place-Based
 Creative Writing**
 with [Janisse Ray](#)
 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
 \$65 until 7/15



Farmer's Corner

Ask Tom



Dear Tom:

Is there a "safer" more organic version of Roundup to kill poison ivy? Handling it with hands and goats inevitably ends up in someone getting a bad rash.

Thanks.
 Lee at Earthaven in WNC

Lee –

Looking at couple catalogs that supply WNC, I see several products which may be useful:

- Burnout II Weed and Grass Killer (gallon ~\$41)
- St. Gabriel Poison Ivy Defoliant (gallon ~\$39)
- Final San-O (2.5 gallons ~\$84)
- McGeary Corn Gluten (40# covers ~2000 sq ft for \$32)

Corn gluten is unlikely to help with poison ivy since it affects seed germination and established plants are unlikely to be damaged. The other three products are defoliants, meaning that the spray affects green leaves but none of these products suggests that they will systemically kill perennial weeds like poison ivy. They may be useful in temporarily reducing exposure to oily leaves. They may also be useful if the grower has patience enough to spray repeatedly.

[Full Class Descriptions Here](#)

[Register for Pre-Conference Workshops Here!](#)

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**Farmers: Got a question for Tom?
Email it to us at**

enews@organicgrowersschool.org

Morning Meditations in the Garden

with Ellen Rubenstein Chelmis



This is a test. I've expanded my gardens this year, and challenged myself with keeping up with them. In past years, I plant, sow, and then, around mid-June, it gets too hot to go outside and it's pretty much every green guy for itself. I know it's cruel, wasteful, and ridiculous, nonetheless, that has been my pattern. This year I endeavor to change it. I have no out-of-town trips planned after June 1. I'm committed. It's here in print—you're a witness!

This is more against the grain than just my aversion to heat. I am not so much a morning person, but I realize that I only have till maybe 10am on summer days to get everything done before the heat is overwhelming, so I've started rising much earlier than the other night owls. And there is the golden sunlight angled through dewdrops, birdsong in full regalia, fog in the valley of the vista—a setting unique to that time of

day. It's beautiful, and a rare sight for me.

Since I am a gardener in training, I am unaware of how real gardeners do things, but here's my routine so far, and I'd love your input...

[Read More at Our Blog](#)

JOIN US for the 1st Annual Harvest Conference

Harvest Conference Registration is Open!

JOIN US FOR TWO DAYS
OF SUSTAINABLE LIVING
EDUCATION

Questions? Comments?
Reply to this email,
call Jenn Cloke at 828.564.1179,
or email jenn@organicgrowersschool.org



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