

2026 TEMG CONFERENCE

Building on Strong Foundations

UT Campus, Knoxville | May 27-29

Learn, Connect, and Grow!

Explore UT's plant research facilities, meet other TEMG volunteers, join the new leadership workgroups, participate in engaging education sessions, and more at this year's state conference!

Learn more at: tiny.utk.edu/TEMGconference

Take a deep dive in the three focus areas of the TEMG Program:



Research

Learn about the research that is conducted at UT, how you can contribute to it, and how to use it in your service projects!



Education

Learn new things for yourself, but also gain new insights for how to weave education into your work as a volunteer!



Diagnostics

Learn to assess, diagnose, and resolve common plant problems!

DAY 1- MAY 27

- **Leadership Kickoff**

Breakout groups for each leadership workgroup

Go to tiny.utk.edu/TEMGLeadership to learn more and prepare for this session!

- **Hors d'oeuvres at UT Gardens**

with Special Guest, Dr. Keith Carver, UTIA Sr. Vice Chancellor/ Sr. Vice President

DAY 2- MAY 28

- **Local Research and Outreach Tours**

UT Gardens, UT plant and horticulture research sites (vegetables, hops, turf, bees, and more), UT Campus Landscapes, Ijams Nature Center, or the Knoxville Smokies Baseball Stadium

- **General Session**

Welcome from UT Extension Dean, Dr. Justin Rhinehart, plus commentary from the UT Extension Volunteerism Specialist, Dave Close

- **Workshop Session 1**

Establishing Credibility, Accessible and Aesthetic Design, Social Media, or Conflict Resolution

- **Workshop Session 2**

Sharing Research Through Volunteer Outreach, Nutrition Education in the Garden, Education for Adult Audiences, or Help Desks & Diagnostics



DAY 3- MAY 29

- **Regional Visit and 2027 Tour Planning**
- **Hands-On Workshop Session**
Insect Collection, Beneficial Fungi & Plants, Home Food Preservation, Native Plant Seed Propagation, Herbaceous & Woody Plant Propagation, Backyard Fruit & Peach Bud Grafting, TN Wine Tasting, or Container & Soilless Food Production
- **Lunch and Closing Session**
- **Campus Mini Tours**
Campus Urban Trees Walking Tour, Greenhouses & Controlled Environment Agriculture Tour, or ANR Building Green Roof Tour



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration includes light dinner on Wednesday, lunch on Thursday and Friday, drinks, snacks, tour fees, and materials for hands-on sessions.

Date of Registration	All 3 Days	Day 1 (5/27)	Day 2 (5/28)	Day 3 (5/29)
Early Bird (before May 1)	\$160	\$30	\$70	\$60
Late Registration (After May 1)	\$175	\$35	\$75	\$65

By mail: Send registration form (next page only) and checks payable to University of Tennessee to:

TEMG Conference Registration Attn: Natalie Bumgarner
2431 Joe Johnson Drive, 301 ANR Building, Knoxville, TN 37996

Online: [This registration link](#) will take you to a UT e-marketplace site. At the bottom of the page, click Add to Cart. Then you will be able to enter contact and payment as well as select tours, sessions.

Hotel information can be found at tiny.utk.edu/TEMGconference.

All Sessions and Events will be held/depart from the
UTIA Agriculture and Natural Resources Building
2431 Joe Johnson Drive, Knoxville TN, 37996

Please be reminded that conference activities will require a lot of walking, standing, and interaction. Be prepared by dressing comfortably, wearing appropriate shoes, and being excited about connecting with EMGs from around the state!

**Please complete and mail the registration form
for arrival by May 1st, 2026**


Name	
Email (for all updates/ reminders)	
Phone	
County/ Local EMG program	
Address	
City	
Zip	

Registration Options

Early Registration (before May 1st)	Select	Late Registration (after May 1st)	Select
Wednesday pre-conference and kick off- \$30		Wednesday pre-conference and kick off- \$35	
Thursday with lunch and dinner- \$70		Thursday with lunch and dinner \$75	
Friday with lunch- \$60		Friday with lunch \$65	
Three-day registration- \$160		Three-day registration- \$175	

* Refund policy- If you have already registered and find you are unable to attend, you may request a 50% refund during the early registration period. Refunds will not be given after the late registration date.

Please select your session for each tour option and/or breakout session.

Wednesday Leadership and Gardens Kickoff	1-Leadership pre-conference with trial focus	3-Leadership pre-conference with education focus	1-Leadership pre-conference with diagnostics focus	1-Leadership pre-conference for our 2025 & 2026 interns	5-Evening Kickoff at Gardens ONLY	
Thur. morning tour	1- UT Gardens (50)	2-Veggies, flowers, and bees- Organic Crops Farm (30)	3-Turf, hops and more- Plant Sciences (30)	4-Stewardship, streambanks and wetlands (30)	5-Wildlife, pollinators at IJAMs nature center (30)	6-Stadium tour at Knoxville Smokies (limit 20)
Thursday lunch	Chicken gyro box with fruit side and cookie	Beef Sandwich box fruit side, and cookie	Greek salad box with chicken and cookie	Greek salad box without chicken (vegan) and cookie	Grilled chicken breast with side greek salad, roasted potatoes side, cookie-gluten free	
Thur. afternoon #1	1-Accessing and using good content	2-Best practices for presentations & Canva	3-Social media outreach tools	4-Working through issues locally		
Thur. afternoon #2	1-Demo gardens, research and outreach	2-Connecting gardens and nutrition- Let's Grow TN	3-Techniques in adult education	4-Help desks and diagnostics		
Fri. morning	1-Insect collections	2-Beneficial fungi and plants	3-Home food preservation	4-Native plant seed propagation		
	5-Herbaceous and woody plant propagation	6-Backyard fruit and peach bud grafting	7-TN wine and tasting	8-Container and soilless small-scale food		
Fri. afternoon	Tree walk and talk	ANR Building Green Roof tour	Greenhouses and controlled environment agriculture at UTIA tour			

Do you have any food or physical limitations? We will do our best to assist.
