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**SustainVU**  
*Growing Responsibly*

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

### Engage Green: Repurposing Old Clothes – June 4

Join Team Green and Urban Green Lab on Wednesday, June 4 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Plato's Closet, 72 White Bridge Road, and mingle while learning more about the "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle Clothing" industry. Join instructors from Turnip Green Creative Reuse as they teach you how to turn your old worn out t-shirts into fabulous accessories! Bring your own tee's, or use the ones onsite. The event is free and open to the public, but please RSVP to [jennifer@urbangreenlab.org](mailto:jennifer@urbangreenlab.org). Read more [here](#).

### Vanderbilt Farmers' Market – June 5, 12, 19, 26

The Vanderbilt Farmers' Market will return to Medical Center Plaza on

Summer is here with many exciting events to enjoy during the hot days and warm nights ahead, including the Vanderbilt Farmers' Market, a Sounds game benefiting Urban Green Lab, and National "Dump the Pump" day. Check out the amazing pictures on our new Instagram of animals from the Nashville Zoo and Walden's Puddle enjoying strawberries donated from VU Commencement's Strawberries and Champagne event! Our Instagram name is [SustainVU\\_Vanderbilt](#), and we'd love for you to follow us! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [Instagram](#). Have a sustainable June, everyone!

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**SustainVU is now on Instagram!**

Thursday, June 5 and will be open each Thursday from 3:00pm to 6:00pm through October 30. Purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, honey, locally farmed meat, cheeses, pasta, bread, and more right here on campus! Click [here](#) for more details!

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## Nashville Area Farmers' Markets – June through October

Nashville is lucky to have many local farmers' market options where we can enjoy fresh, seasonal, local food. Most markets will be open June through late October, including [12 South Farmers' Market](#) – Tuesdays 3:30pm to 6:30pm; [East Nashville Farmers' Market at Shelby Park](#) – Wednesdays 3:30pm to 7:00pm; [West End Farmers Market at Vine Street](#) – Saturdays 10:00am to 1:00pm (through November); and [Nashville Farmers' Market at Richland Park](#) – Saturdays 9:00am to 12:00pm. The downtown [Nashville Farmers' Market](#) is open year-round, but merchant times vary. Find more information [here](#).

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## World Environment Day – June 7

World Environment Day (WED), observed Saturday, June 7, is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years it has grown to be a broad, global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders in over 100 countries. It also serves as the 'people's day' for [doing something positive for the environment](#), such as using compact

We're on Instagram! Follow [SustainVU\\_Vanderbilt](#) for exciting information, sustainability tips, fun photos, and events going on at Vanderbilt and around Nashville!

## Commencement strawberries donated to Nashville Zoo and Walden's Puddle



fluorescent bulbs, biking or walking, or switching to reusable bags and water bottles. Individual actions are transformed into a collective power that generates an exponential positive impact on the planet. 2014 has been designated as the [International Year of Small Island Developing States](#) (SIDS), and WED will encourage a greater understanding of the importance of SIDS and of the urgency to help protect the islands in the face of growing risks and vulnerabilities, particularly as a result of climate change. Read more [here](#).

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### **Family Farm Day – June 7**

Join [Community Food Advocates](#) on Saturday, June 7 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm at Buffalo Family Farm, 7556 Buffalo Road, for Family Farm Day 2014. Family Farm Day is a farm-to-table experience for the whole family featuring local food, educational activities, crafts, live music and more. Event proceeds support Growing Healthy Kids, a program of Community Food Advocates, increasing access to healthy food in public schools. Food and drinks will be provided by local eateries including The Wild Cow, Nutrisha, Hattie B's Hot Chicken, Dozen Bakery, Charpier's Bakery, The Peach Truck and Whole Foods Market. Read more and buy tickets [here](#)!

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### **Urban Green Lab Night at the Nashville Sounds – June 10**

Attend the Nashville Sounds game on Tuesday, June 10 and support [Urban Green Lab](#), Waste Management's

The Vanderbilt Chancellor's Office donated leftover

Charity of the Night. Urban Green Lab is Nashville's first nonprofit dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our city through sustainability. The game starts at 7:05pm and you can buy tickets [here](#).

### **Nashville Green Drinks— June 18**

On Wednesday, June 18 at 6:00pm, participate in Nashville Green Drinks, an organic, casual, self-organized meet up of like-minded professionals with a focus on sustainability.

Nashville Green Drinks will take place at Village Pub, located at 1308 McGavock Pike.

### **National “Dump the Pump” Day – June 19**

On Thursday, June 19, American Public Transportation Association (APTA), and public transportation systems across the country will celebrate the 9th Annual National Dump the Pump Day, which encourages people to ride public transportation instead of driving, and save money. If you're driving to Vanderbilt, check out available [alternative transportation options](#) and read more about National Dump the Pump day [here](#).

### **USGBC Middle Tennessee Membership Luncheon – June 27**

Join the Middle Tennessee chapter of USGBC on Friday, June 27 from 11:30am to 1:00pm for their monthly membership meeting. The meeting will be held at Cumberland River



strawberries from the 2014 Strawberries and Champagne Commencement event for the second year in a row to the [Nashville Zoo](#) and for the first time to [Walden's Puddle Wildlife](#)

[Rehabilitation and Education Center](#). Staff from the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO) organized the donation and delivered the strawberries to both locations after Commencement events concluded. The donation of the strawberries prevented the leftovers from being sent to the landfill and helped the animal caretakers to offer an unexpected tasty treat to the animals. Click [here](#) for amazing photos of the animals enjoying their strawberries!

### **EPA releases proposed rule for states to cut carbon pollution from existing power plants**

This week the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released for public comment the [Clean Power Plan](#), a proposed rule to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from existing power plants. Power plants account for approximately 1/3 of all GHG emissions in the United States. While there are limits in place for the level of arsenic, mercury, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particle pollution that power plants can emit, there are currently no national limits on carbon pollution levels. The Clean Power Plan proposed rule follows through on the Clean Air Act and President Obama's [Climate Action Plan](#) to encourage cleaner energy sources, energy efficiency, and cut energy waste, resulting in cleaner air and slower climate change. The proposed rule is now open for a 120-day public comment period and four public hearings will be held the week of July 28 in Denver, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, and Washington, DC.

The EPA states that the Clean Power Plan will, by 2030, achieve the following:

- Cut carbon emission from the power sector by 30% nationwide below 2005 levels, which is equal to the emissions from powering more than half the homes in the United States for one year;
- Cut particle pollution, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide by more than 25% as a co-benefit;
- Avoid up to 6,600 premature deaths, up to 150,000 asthma attacks in children, and up to 490,000 missed work or school days—providing up to \$93 billion in climate and public health benefits; and
- Shrink electricity bills roughly 8% by increasing energy efficiency and reducing demand in the electricity system.

Compact, located in the Bridge Building, 2 Victory Ave Suite 300. Click [here](#) to learn about this month's speaker and to RSVP.

### Urban Green Lab's Green Garden Party – June 28

Join Urban Green Lab on Saturday, June 28 and enjoy drinks, appetizers, live music, and mingle with friends as you support making Nashville a more sustainable city. The highlight of the night will be the unveiling of the drawings for Urban Green Lab's signature mobile learning lab. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

### Students! Sign up for Cardboard Crew at Move In – August 16

Sign up for the Cardboard Crew, move in early, get free food and a shirt, and enjoy the satisfaction of recycling tons of cardboard...literally! If you don't know about Cardboard Crew, it is a student-led alternative to Move Crew that recycles all of the cardboard normally discarded during move in day on campus. Last year, the Cardboard Crew diverted over 35 tons of cardboard from the landfill! Sign up [here](#).



The Clean Power Plan outlines state-specific GHG reduction goals and allows each state flexibility to develop a state-specific plan to achieve these goals by 2030 by employing a combination of “plant to plug” improvements. “States can choose how to meet the goal through whatever measures reflect their particular circumstances and policy objectives. They can:

- Look broadly across the power sector for strategies that get reductions;
- Invest in existing energy efficiency programs – or create new ones;
- Consider market trends toward improved energy efficiency and a greater reliance on lower-emitting power sources
- Expand renewable energy generation capacity;
- Tap into investments already being made to upgrade aging infrastructure;
- Integrate their plans into existing power sector planning processes;
- Design plans that use innovative, cost-effective regulatory strategies;
- Develop a state-only plan or collaborate with each other to develop plans on a multi-state basis.”

Vanderbilt has already reduced our overall GHG emissions by 13.8% since 2005 by improving the energy efficiency of our existing buildings, ensuring new buildings are built to energy efficient standards, and improving energy conservation measures taken by students, staff and faculty. While we have already made great headway in reducing Vanderbilt's GHG emissions, Vanderbilt also chose in 2013, for a variety of reasons, to convert our current dually fueled power plant to one fueled entirely by natural gas. The University expects to completely eliminate the use of coal on campus by late 2014. In addition, switching to natural gas from a coal/natural gas mix will reduce Vanderbilt's emission of particulate matter by more than 50%, while emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and other air pollutants will virtually be eliminated. Click [here](#) for more information about the power plant conversion to all-natural gas. Detailed information on EPA's Clean Power Plan, including the ability to publicly comment on the proposed rule, can be found [here](#).

### Vanderbilt professor, Michael Vandenberg, speaks on climate change at TEDxNashville





of Law and director of [Vanderbilt's Climate Change Research Network](#), recently spoke on “Buying Time: The Private Governance Response to Climate Change” at

TEDxNashville. Professor Vandenberg's academic research explores the relationship between formal legal regulation and informal social regulation of individual and corporate behavior, the influence of social norms on corporate behavior, and the ways in which private contracting can enhance or undermine public governance. Watch his TEDxNashville talk [here](#).

### **“Dump the Pump” and save big bucks annually by riding public transit**

Celebrate National “Dump the Pump” day on Thursday, June 19 by utilizing public transportation for your traveling needs. In addition to the environmental benefits associated with removing cars from the roads, a recent study also showed that there is a significant monetary benefit to Nashville residents who ride public transportation. On average, [riders can save \\$9,647 annually](#), by using mass transit. The savings amount for Nashville is based on the average cost of parking and driving in Nashville.

For an even greater incentive to hop on mass transit, Vanderbilt offers a subsidized [“Ride to Work”](#) program for all Vanderbilt employees and graduate, professional, and medical students to ride the local mass transit buses to and from work each day and [discounted tickets](#) for the RTA “Relax and Ride” regional bus service and the Music City Star train. More information on MTA bus services is available [here](#). To find out more about alternative transportation options at Vanderbilt, click [here](#).

### **Summer festivals offer opportunities for recycling and environmental education**

Planning to attend some of the area's most popular summer





festivals this month? Many offer recycling opportunities as well as environmental activities that you are not going to want to miss! The [CMA Music Festival](#), held June 5 – 8 right here in Nashville, will offer plenty of recycling receptacles at all events, including those at LP Field.

If you're traveling south to the 2014 [Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival](#), held June 12 – 15 in Manchester, TN, make sure you check out the [Environment, Health and Wellness](#) events, including a learning garden and a recycling trading post. You can also read more about Bonnaroo's commitment to sustainability [here](#).

### **Oak Ridge National Laboratory offers tips to achieve greater fuel efficiency**

If you are planning a road trip this summer, you will want to read these fuel saving tips based on a [recent study](#) conducted by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). For the study, researchers tested a sport utility vehicle and a compact sedan with various configurations. The findings serve as a reminder of how drivers can save money by taking simple measures.

- A rooftop cargo box decreased the SUV's fuel economy by 9% and the sedan's fuel economy by 22%;
- Low tire pressure (50 and 75% of the manufacturer recommendation) resulted in negligible to 10% fuel economy penalties;
- Driving with all four windows down decreased fuel economy by 4-8.5% for the sedan and 1-4% for the SUV;
- Towing a 3,500-pound enclosed cargo trailer resulted in fuel economy penalties ranging from 30% in city driving to 50% at 80 mph for the SUV;
- The best fuel economies were achieved at a constant speed of 40 mph for the sedan with 57.5 mpg and 50 mph for the SUV with 29.5 mpg; and,
- At 80 mph, fuel economy for the sedan dropped to 30.9 mpg while the SUV dropped to 17.7 mpg.

More information about vehicles and fuel economy is available at <http://www.fueleconomy.gov>.



For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit the SustainVU website at [www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu) or

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