

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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Nashville MTA Public Hearings – January 31, February 1-2

The Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) will hold public hearings on January 31 and February 1-2 on proposed new services including BusLink in Antioch and an express route serving Madison and the Rivergate community. Comments may also be submitted to the MTA Planning Department: attn: Public Hearing Comments, 130 Nestor Street, Nashville, TN 37210; fax comments to 862-6208; call Customer Care at 862-5950; or email mta.publichearings@nashville.gov through Feb. 11, 2011. [Read more...](#)

Solar Workshop – February 1

Join LightWave Solar at a free solar workshop for homeowners on



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Happy February from SustainVU! We hope that you've enjoyed the snowy winter weather and that it hasn't impeded your regular activities too much. Don't forget to check out our tips for celebrating Valentine's Day sustainably and to show your Commodore spirit by participating in Recyclemania! We'd like to share with you several green events and sustainability opportunities coming up this month – more information can always be found on both the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Happy Valentine's Day from SEMO!

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Help Vanderbilt catch Recyclemania on campus during February and March



Vanderbilt will compete in Recyclemania for the first time this year. Recyclemania is a friendly competition among colleges and

Tuesday, February 1 from 6-7 pm at Energy Logic in Antioch. The workshop will explain the process of adding solar to your home – from the initial site visit and costs and incentives to your first electric bill after installation. RSVP to Grace Safer at info@lightwavesolar.com or call 641-4050. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Middle TN Chapter Meeting – February 4

Join the Middle TN Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council for a breakfast buffet and networking at 7:30 am followed by a chapter meeting at 8 am. Mayor Karl Dean will speak encouraging Nashville to become “the greenest city in the Southeast.” Afterwards, attend the USGBC Committee Fair. [Read more...](#)

Designing Environments for Health Lecture Series – February 10

The Nashville Civic Design Center and UT College of Architecture and Design will host lecturer Alan Hedge, PhD, CPE, an expert in ergonomics and health, on Thursday, February 10 at 6 pm at the University Club. The series aims to discuss how the creation and organization of space can meaningfully impact the human experience, health, and wellness. [Read more...](#)

February CityThink: Sustainability Brown Bag Lunch – February 15

On Tuesday, February 15 at 11:30 am

universities to determine who is the grand champion recycler. It begins Feb. 6 and ends April 2. Students, faculty and staff can all help Vanderbilt win Recyclemania. Most buildings on campus have recycling containers located indoors near trash cans, and there are many receptacles located along campus walkways as well. Students in residential areas can use recycling containers conveniently located near their dumpsters.

The Sustainability and Environmental Management Office, (SEMO) will be monitoring recycling rates weekly and submitting them to the competition organizers. Recyclemania is a university competition so only those recycling amounts from main campus will be reported, but we definitely encourage our Medical Center colleagues to become Recyclemaniacs as well. Catch Recyclemania! [Read the full article.](#)

Show love for the Earth this Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, February 14, is a day filled with cards, sweets, flowers and gifts. Like many holidays, its celebration involves unintentional environmental side effects, particularly when it comes to the consumption of natural resources and the generation of solid waste. [Check out these suggestions](#) for showing the Earth some affection, while celebrating with those near and dear to you.



Bus Service from Springfield, Joelton Available



Jan. 31 through Feb. 11, employees who live in the Springfield and Joelton areas can ride to and from Vanderbilt for free on a Gray Line coach provided by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). If enough riders use the service (and final funding is approved), the schedule will be expanded to two buses each way and will offer more choices of departure and arrival times. During the trial period, only one bus will run, causing the schedule to be compressed as follows: depart Springfield at 6:30 am, arrive at Vanderbilt 7:37 am; depart Vanderbilt at 3:48 pm, arrive Springfield 5:12 pm. If after the trial period the service becomes permanent, Vanderbilt University employees, medical students and volunteers will be able to purchase 20 ride passes for the discounted price of \$37 (regularly \$60). [Read the full article.](#)

at the Nashville Civic Design Center, Dodd Galbreath and Aileen Bennett of Lipscomb's Institute for Sustainable Practice will lead a discussion addressing sustainability and its benefits, sustainability news in Nashville, and programs offered by the institute. [Read more...](#)

Designing Environments for Health Panel Discussion – February 24

The Nashville Civic Design Center and UT College of Architecture and Design will host a panel discussion highlighting the application of Alan Hedge's insights on Monday, February 24 at 5:30 pm at the Nashville Civic Design Center. The series aims to discuss how the creation and organization of space can meaningfully impact the human experience, health, and wellness.

[Read more...](#)

USGBC Middle TN Solar Decathlon – February 25

Join the Middle TN Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council for a solar decathlon on Tuesday, February 25 at 7:30 am at the Adventure Science Center. The event is \$20 for Chapter members and \$30 for non-members. Breakfast will be served.

[Read more...](#)



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Adsorbed in His Work

A leader in the field of adsorption, Doug LeVan, J. Lawrence Wilson Professor of Engineering and professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at Vanderbilt, seeks to improve air quality both on Earth and in space. Currently, his research group studies adsorption of gases on nanoporous materials. Such materials contain pores smaller than a nanometer (one billionth of a meter). In addition to applying theory, the team uses models and experiments in air separation, gas storage, the removal of trace contaminants and other applications. For example, the researchers are working on developing new metal organic framework adsorbents to remove carbon dioxide from the flue gases of coal-fired power plants. Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, this research may help reduce the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. [Read the full article published by Vanderbilt Engineering Magazine.](#)



Sustainable Tennessee Agenda released

The Sustainable Tennessee Agenda was created by a diverse group of citizens, conservation groups, environmental policy experts, students, educators and representatives of private business and industry. The Agenda provides a road map for Tennessee to protect and re-vitalize our economy, our communities, and our quality of life. The issues are grouped into four main categories: Air, Energy, Land and Water. The Agenda includes Legislative, Regulatory, Market-based, Education, and Research issues. The recommendations within may be applied to many levels of organization—individuals, businesses, churches, schools, and government agencies—and are meant to be readily implementable. [Read the Sustainable Tennessee Agenda.](#)



For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit the SustainVU website at www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu or (615) 322-2057.

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