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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY



# SustainVU

*Growing Responsibly*



July 2017

Summer is officially here, and with it comes hot temperatures! Declare your independence from high energy use this 4<sup>th</sup> of July by using some easy energy saving tips included below. Remember to adjust your thermostat to a little warmer office temperature (76 F-78 F), close blinds and curtains in the hottest part of the day, and turn off lights when you leave a room or before you leave for a vacation to help campus use less energy. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. Happy Independence Day!



## Power down before you leave for the holiday

### **A Celebration in Nature – July 1**

Make a celebratory craft from “fireworks” gathered from nature at the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center! All ages welcome. Event goes from 10-11am. Registration is required, more information [here](#).

### **Engage Green: Fermentation with Sandor Katz – July 5**

Engage Green is our monthly sustainability event series the FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month, in partnership

Let the fireworks be the only thing lighting up the sky this holiday weekend! Please remember to power down before you leave the office or your home for any extended period this summer. Here are some things you can do to help conserve energy while you are away:



**Set thermostat settings to 76-78 degrees F.**

Remember to also adjust thermostats in classrooms unoccupied during the summer.

**Close window shades or blinds** during the hottest part of the day, or when you leave for the holiday, to keep heat out and cool air in.

**Turn off lights in your workspace** when you leave, even if only for a short period of time.

**Turn off lights to common areas** such as kitchens, bathrooms, break rooms, classrooms and conference rooms when you leave and especially before leaving for the holiday.

**Turn off office or lab equipment.** If allowed in your area, computers, printers, copiers, scanners, and some lab equipment can be turned off when you leave for the holiday. Otherwise, activate sleep modes and energy-saving settings.

**In laboratory spaces, close fume hood sashes when not in use,** or when the lab is closed over the holiday. A single fume hood running 24 hours can use the same amount of energy as a single-family home in a year.

Read [more](#).



## Vanderbilt's bees settling into new home

with Urban Green Lab, a non-profit organization that provides hands-on educational experiences dedicated to sustainable living. This month's topic is Fermentation with Sandor Katz. Event starts at 6pm. Registration is required, more information [here](#).

### Tennessee Women in Green – July 7

Join TWIG's monthly meeting with networking and a speaker from 7:30-9:00am. This month's speaker is Margo Farnsworth on: "A New Sexy – Considering Respect for Nonhuman Neighbors". More information [here](#).

### Preparing for the Total Eclipse – July 12

Learn about the upcoming total solar eclipse happening this August. Join Barnard-Seyfert Astronomical Society with solar-filtered telescopes, energy experts from Lightwave Solar, create solar art with the Frist Center for the Visual Arts and learn from Nature Center staff during this celebration of the Sun. More information [here](#).

### TURBO Meeting – July 13



Summer is here and Vanderbilt's newest members of the black and gold community, three beehives, are settling into their new home at the Vanderbilt Community Garden! The hives were

installed in April as part of the [Vanderbilt Green Fund](#). Read [more](#).



## Web-based tool will help government realistically plan for climate change

Life beside the Mississippi River always came with some uncertainty about the safety of homes, crops and city streets. Residents looked at flood



maps based on historical data and chose their sites, built their levies and bridge footings and kept a wary eye on the river stages. That's not enough anymore, a team of Vanderbilt University engineers contend, because climate change is rendering the old ways obsolete.

With [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) funding, Professor Mark Abkowitz, director of [Vanderbilt's Center for Environmental Management Studies](#), and Janey Camp, research associate professor of [civil and environmental engineering](#), are deploying web-based tools to map West Tennessee flood vulnerabilities under future climate scenarios. The tools will have applications nationwide. [Read More](#).



## Expert: Private industry, better messaging can help overcome damage from Paris withdrawal

Join us to talk about the upcoming TURBO projects and installations. TURBO – Tactical URBanism Organizers is a group that uses tactical urbanism methods, which are small and often temporary changes to the built environment that will ideally turn into permanent change across the city. Event from 5:30pm-6:30pm. More information [here](#).

### Nutritious & Delicious: Anti-Inflammatory Foods – July 19

Join Team Green Adventures for their monthly workshop on promoting health and nutrition through in-season, local ingredients! This month's class will focus on anti-inflammatory foods and will be held at the Nashville Farmers' Market from 6-7pm. More information [here](#).

### Design Your Neighborhood – July 20

Nashville Civic Design Center's Design Your Neighborhood is a four week summer internship for high schoolers that teaches different aspects of design as a



President Donald Trump’s announcement that the U.S. will withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement phases out U.S. commitments to achieve carbon reduction targets and make financial contributions to slow climate change. Vanderbilt University law and earth science professors contend initiatives that reduce carbon emissions from corporations and households can fill some of the gap.

Michael Vandenberg and others in the [Climate Change Research Network](#) said they saw huge potential for studying the role of corporate and human behavior and of messaging in energy policy. “Almost everybody looking at what to do about climate change assumes it has to be fixed with policies coming from national or international government,” said Jonathan Gilligan, associate professor of earth and environmental sciences. “Those climate responses are important, but let’s get real here. The private sector is beginning to realize that the rest of us must do our part.” [Read more.](#)



way of thinking and problem solving. More information [here.](#)

**City Cycling 101: Edmondson Pike Branch – July 22**

City Cycling 101: Safe City Riding is a classroom course designed to help you brush up on your bike riding knowledge and skills. This is an indoor class and no materials are required. Please make sure to arrive 5-10 minutes early as the fix-a-flat demonstration will start promptly at 12pm. More information [here.](#)

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 contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at [sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu) or (615) 322-2057.

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