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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

**Vanderbilt Farmers' Market –
August 7, 14, 21, 28**

The Vanderbilt Farmers' Market is now open in Medical Center Plaza 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!

**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](#)

It has been really quiet on campus this summer without the students around, so we're excited that they'll be moving back in this month! Be sure to check out our [Earth-friendly move in tips](#) if you are a Vandy student, and we can't wait to meet first-years as part of the Cardboard Crew during Commons Move-In! We have updates below for the three major construction projects happening on campus: the conversion of the on-campus co-generation power plant, the construction of the new Engineering and Science building, and the restoration of the VUH Plaza. Can you believe it is almost football time, too?! We are looking forward to seeing Coach Mason and the Commodores in action this year, so don't forget to anchor down and recycle at all the home games!

Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [Instagram](#). Have a safe and sustainable August and welcome back students!

Andrea George, Director
Sustainability and Environmental Management Office,

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.

Earth-Friendly Move In – August 16-20

Whether you’re a first-year Commodore or returning for your senior year, consider packing your belongings in reusable totes to minimize waste during move in. If you have cardboard boxes, remember to break them down and put them into cardboard recycling dumpsters located around Branscomb, Carmichael Towers, Morgan/Lewis, and Moore/Warren. The VU Cardboard Crew will assist first-year students at the Commons with recycling their cardboard, Styrofoam and plastic film wrapping. For more information about recycling at Vanderbilt, visit the SustainVU website. Welcome back to Vandy!

NES Neighborhood Energy Savers Workshop – August 16

A smaller electric bill is one little workshop away. Join Nashville Electric Service (NES) on Saturday, August 16 from 9:30am – 11:00am at East Park Community Center, 700 Woodland Street, Nashville for a FREE Neighborhood Energy Savers Workshop and get great tips on reducing your energy usage. You’ll receive a FREE Energy Saving Tool Kit valued at \$25. Your kit includes:

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Natural gas boilers installed at power plant

caulk, CFLs, expanding foam insulation, and a low-flow shower head and faucet aerators. Learn easy, energy-efficiency improvements that anyone can do at home and get a plan of action for saving money. Read more [here](#).

Food for Thought: Planning and Planting a Cool Weather Garden Workshop – August 16

Scarritt-Bennett Center and Urban Green Lab are teaming up for a workshop on Saturday, August 16 from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Participants will view the Unity in Diversity Peace Garden and hear an informative presentation on sustainable gardening techniques led by Judith Cornelius from Gardens of Babylon. Judith will help participants choose the right plants for cool weather, demonstrate how to position plants for optimal results, and teach how to care for fall and winter gardens! After the workshop, enjoy conversation over a delicious meal (\$12) in the Susie Gray Dining Hall, sharing cultural knowledge about food and exploring how our relationship to food defines who we are, our connections to each other and to the environment. RSVP [here](#).

Sustainable Tennessee Policy and Practice Meeting — August 21

What will it take for Tennessee to lead the nation in sustainability? The Tennessee Environmental Council wants your input, ideas, enthusiasm and energy as they seek to answer this question and create a sustainable vision for our state. Click

Two massive natural gas boilers were installed at the



[here](#) to register for the Sustainable Tennessee Policy and Practice Meeting, being held on Thursday, August 21 from 1:00pm to 8:00pm at West End United Methodist Church, 2200 West End Avenue, Nashville.

Free Public Film Screening of DamNation – August 21

Urban Green Lab is co-hosting a public film screening of the award-winning documentary [DamNation](#) with Cumberland River Compact on Thursday, August 21 at 7:00pm at the River Center, 2 Victory Avenue, Nashville. Read more and reserve your spot for this free event [here](#).

USGBC Middle Tennessee Membership Luncheon – August 22

Join the Middle Tennessee chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) on Friday, August 22 from 11:30am to 1:00pm at Cumberland River Compact – 3rd Floor of the Bridge Building (2 Victory Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville) for networking and a presentation on construction and demolition waste. Read more and RSVP [here](#).

EPA Clean Power Plan Public Forum – August 26

A public forum in Knoxville will be held regarding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan. Hosted by the University of Tennessee's Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Environment and

Vanderbilt power plant July 12 as part of the university's [ongoing effort](#) to convert the co-generation facility completely to natural gas. The new boilers will provide steam to more than 5.8 million square feet of building space at the university and medical center. This steam is used to heat buildings and water; in several campus processes, such as the sterilization of equipment; and to make chilled water for air conditioning.

The next phase of the power plant's conversion will include the installation of a 7.5-megawatt turbine and a new heat recovery steam generator to co-generate electricity and steam, allowing Vanderbilt to fully convert from the use of coal to natural gas. The powerhouse control system is also being upgraded to provide the university with state-of-the-art functionality and monitoring. Vanderbilt is working closely with Messer Construction Co. to ensure that existing plant operations continue without interruption during construction. Read more [here](#).

Trees relocated and recycled during construction of Engineering and Science Building

Signs and fencing have gone up at the corner of Highland

Conservation and the Tennessee Valley Authority, the forum will be Tuesday, August 26 1pm – 5pm in the Toyota Auditorium, 1640 Cumberland Avenue, Knoxville, TN. Because seating is limited, registration for the free forum is strongly encouraged. Additional details, including registration and parking information, are available by [clicking here](#).

Football Season Opener vs. Temple – August 28

Vanderbilt has continued our partnership with Waste Management, Inc. this year to support sustainability during athletics events, and Commodore fans can help protect the environment by recycling items at each home football game. So show your Vanderbilt pride... [anchor down and tackle recycling!](#)



and 25th Avenues, the construction site for the new [Engineering and Science Building](#). Additional preparation of the site has required the clearing of 66 trees so that land can be properly graded. Of that number, 42 trees will be recycled into paneling and trim for the new building. “This not only works toward our sustainability goals, but the mix of hardwoods from this site should bring a beautiful variety to the interiors to be enjoyed for years to come,” said Judson Newbern, deputy vice chancellor for facilities and environment.

The tree clearance will not affect Vanderbilt’s designation as an arboretum, and no unique examples of any species on campus will be lost. A corner with shade trees will be re-established in front of the new building once construction is complete. Read the full story [here](#).

Vanderbilt’s waste and recycling vendor converts vehicles to compressed natural gas

Vanderbilt's waste and recycling vendor, Waste

Management, has launched a new fleet of natural gas-powered trash collection vehicles in conjunction with the opening of a self-service compressed natural gas (CNG) retail fueling station in Nashville. The station will refuel Waste Management’s local fleet and sell CNG to commercial fleets as well as to retail consumers with CNG-equipped vehicles. As a result, almost all of the Waste Management vehicles that service Vanderbilt’s campus will be CNG fueled.

“We are pleased that Waste Management’s fleet improvements align with and support Vanderbilt’s ongoing commitment to sustainability,” said Andrea George, director of Vanderbilt’s Sustainability and Environmental Management Office. “The CNG-powered vehicles will provide air and noise pollution reductions that will positively impact our campus and Nashville in general.” Read more [here](#).

Hospital plaza set to undergo major restoration

After little change since its construction in 1977, one of

the Vanderbilt University Medical Center’s most familiar landmarks, the plaza behind Vanderbilt University Hospital (VUH), is undergoing restoration. Restoration measures will require the removal of all existing pavers, planters and vegetation to reach the plaza’s concrete subsurface. Where possible, efforts will be made to reuse or repurpose the plaza’s existing shrubs and trees.

“To reduce future impact, the restoration to the plaza will be finished with materials and vegetation that will allow the subsurface to be accessed by Plant Services for maintenance and repair. The existing mortar-set pavers (brick) will be replaced with an accessible sand-set system, and new vegetation will be planted in trays and concrete planters that can be moved to access the areas below them. These new systems significantly improve accessibility and Vanderbilt’s ability to troubleshoot any future issues,” said the project’s planning architect, Donald Blair of Blair + Mui Dowd Architects PC. “During restoration the plaza will also receive new energy-efficient light fixtures and entry canopies with signage that will improve way-finding.” Read the full story [here](#).

August is National Water Quality Month – EPA proposes new regulations to clarify Clean Water Act

New proposed regulations by the US Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA) will make it clear how streams, wetlands, and other types of waterways are protected under the nation's water pollution laws. The [proposed rule](#) clarifies protection under the Clean Water Act for streams and wetlands that form the foundation of the nation's water resources.

Click [here](#) for facts that emphasize that this proposed rule cuts through red tape to make normal farming practices easier while also ensuring that waters are clean for human health, communities, and the economy. You can read an EPA blog post about this topic [here](#).

Urban Green Lab Internship Opportunity

Urban Green Lab is seeking a self-starter who works

effectively independently and can take direction well. This unpaid internship is equal parts research, communications, and administration and requires 8-10 hours/week for the semester. Work will be supervised by the Executive Director. Urban Green Lab is looking for an individual that can fit into their flexible, creative, and fast-paced start-up culture.

Urban Green Lab is a Nashville nonprofit whose mission is to “facilitate a range of educational and social programs that inspire participants from all socioeconomic backgrounds to make sustainability a bigger part of their lives—in their homes, neighborhoods, and businesses.” To apply, please email resume and cover letter to jennifer@urbangreenlab.org.



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.

