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SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

**Tennessee Environmental Council
Night at the Nashville Sounds –
August 1**

Join the Tennessee Environmental Council on August 1 for a night at the Nashville Sounds game. Tickets are \$12. With 50 or more participants, the Sounds will donate \$4 per ticket to the Council when purchased [here](#). Click [here](#) for more information and to buy tickets!

**Tomato Fest Month in East
Nashville – All of August**

Tomato Fest Month in East Nashville. The Tomato Fest benefits local food sustainability and security. Click [here](#) for a list of the months' events!

**VU Farmer's Market – August 1, 8,
15, 22, 29**

VU Farmer's Market is back every Thursday on the Medical Center Plaza

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY... to the SustainVU newsletter, that is! It's hard to believe that this edition marks the 5th anniversary of our sustainability newsletter. We had a few early attempts in 2007/2008 but began our monthly newsletter in this format 5 academic years ago! What a great 5 years it has been! We hope you have enjoyed it as much as we have. To mark this momentous occasion, we have included information below about our new [SustainVU Newsletter Archive](#) as well as a summary of [major accomplishments](#) from the past 5 years. And boy have there been some exciting ones! We are also excited that our students will begin moving back to campus this month, and game day recycling will gear up again for the first game of the season on August 29! As always, additional information is available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Have an awesome August, and here's to many more years ahead for the SustainVU newsletter!

Andrea George, Director
Sustainability and Environmental Management Office,
Vanderbilt University
(615) 322-4551 | [e-mail](#) | [Web site](#)



from 3pm to 6pm. Read more [here](#).

“Energy Right” Workshop – August 17

On Saturday, August 17 from 9:30am to 11am, don't miss this workshop at Shelby Bottoms Nature Center. The workshop aims to teach practical and cost-effective ways to make homes more energy efficient, ultimately saving money on monthly utility bills. Each participating household will receive a free energy-saving toolkit to take home. Registration is required. Call or email the nature center to register at 615-862-8539 or shelbybottomsnature@nashville.gov. Read more [here](#).

Students! Sign up for Cardboard Crew at Move In – August 17

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 32 tons of cardboard from the landfill! Sign up [here](#) or contact matthew.buckley@vanderbilt.edu for more information.

Earth-Friendly Move In – August 17-20

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

Vanderbilt achieves significant sustainability improvements over the past five years

To celebrate the 5th anniversary of both the SustainVU newsletter and the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office, we wanted to highlight just a few of the exciting improvements that have occurred on our campus in the past five years. More are available [here](#).

- One of only 21 universities nationwide named to the [2013 Princeton Review Green College Honor Roll](#) and is included in the [2013 “Guide to 322 Green Colleges”](#);
- Received an “A” rating in environmental and social intent and transparency from the Roberts Environmental Center;
- Allotted \$29 million over three years to [convert the VU power plant to all natural gas fuel](#), eliminating coal use on campus by 2015;
- Certified [14 projects](#) under the environmental requirements of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program;
- [Reduced overall greenhouse gas emissions by 12% from 2008](#) and by over 20% per square foot, staff and student;
- Increased [recycling](#) by 60% from 2011 to 2012 to 5 million pounds of cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminum and scrap metal, 75 tons of computers, and 41,000 fluorescent light bulbs annually;
- Saw Vanderbilt Printing Services achieve [Forest Stewardship Council \(FSC\) Chain-of-Custody certification](#) in 2012;
- Converted 1,100 gallons of used cooking oil to 850 gallons of biodiesel annually;
- Composted 9,000 cubic feet of landscaping and leaf waste annually which is [reused as mulch](#);
- Retrofitted 3,500 bathroom fixtures to conserve over 50 million gallons of water annually, reducing [VU's water consumption](#) by 40%;
- Involved over 300 members of the Vanderbilt community in the development of [Vanderbilt's Environmental Commitment Statement](#), released April 22, 2009;
- Organized 37 student volunteers each year to serve as [Eco-Dore peer environmental educators](#) for undergraduate residential students; and
- Won the 2009 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Green Building, the 2008 Award for Environmental Education, and the 2006 Award for Excellence in Pollution Prevention.

SustainVU Newsletter Archive now available

Did you just sign up for the SustainVU Newsletter? Are you upset that you missed a month? Don't worry! All past issues of the [SustainVU newsletter](#) are now available on the



have cardboard boxes, remember to break them down and toss them into cardboard recycling dumpsters located around Branscomb, Carmichael Towers and Morgan/Lewis. The VU Cardboard Crew will assist first-year students with recycling their cardboard boxes at the Commons. For more information about recycling at Vanderbilt, visit the [SustainVU website](#). Welcome back to Vandy!

Nashville Green Drinks – August 21

On Wednesday, August 21 at 6pm, 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 (1308 McGavock Pike).

Football Season Opener vs. Ole Miss – August 29

Vanderbilt has continued our partnership with Waste Management 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!

Fall Farm Dinner – September 15

Join Community Food Advocates on September 15 from 5pm to 9pm at Buffalo Valley Farm, 7556 Buffalo Road, Nashville, TN 37221 for a Fall Farm Dinner and Festivities. Read more and order tickets [here](#).

[SustainVU website](#). Check them out for great stories and ideas on how to be more sustainable in your work and daily life.

Grad student wins first place in DOE fuel cycle research competition

Lyndsey Morgan Fyffe, a doctoral student in environmental engineering at Vanderbilt, has been awarded a first place prize in the U.S. Department of Energy's Innovations in Fuel Cycle Research Awards competition.



Fyffe's research focus is safety and performance measures for nuclear chemical

processing facilities. Her faculty co-advisers are James H. Clarke, professor of the practice of civil and environmental engineering, and director of graduate studies in environmental engineering and Steven Krahn, professor of the practice of nuclear environmental engineering. Read more [here](#).

Krahn receives U.S. academy's environmental engineering certification

Steven L. Krahn, professor of the practice of nuclear environmental engineering, has been accepted by eminence into the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists as a Board Certified Environmental Engineering Member in the specialty practice of hazardous waste management.



Krahn performs research in the technologies associated with the materials processing and risk assessment associated with the nuclear fuel cycle, and he actively participates in the Consortium for Risk Evaluation and Stakeholder Participation (CRESP), an engineering research center at Vanderbilt that works to advance cost-effective cleanup of the nation's nuclear weapons production waste sites and test facilities. Read more [here](#).

MTA offers special Music City Star train tickets to Wilson County Fair August 17-24

The Music City Star will provide train service to the Wilson County Fair on Saturday, August 17th and Saturday, August 24th. Tickets are available for purchase online at



Annual College & University Recycling Coalition Workshop & Tour – October 6

Join the College & University Recycling Coalition (CURC) for its annual Workshop on Sunday, October 6 from 9am to 4pm. The workshop will be held in The Commons Center at Vanderbilt. This year, CURC welcomes participants who wish to attend just for the day as well as those attending the AASHE Conference in Nashville. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about current issues that impact recycling and materials management at colleges and universities. Attendees will also be able to network with collegiate colleagues to share challenges and solutions and hear about Vanderbilt's recycling and sustainability program. A tour of Vanderbilt's facilities will follow the workshop and lunch. [Click here to register.](#)

AASHE 2013 Conference – October 6-9

Save the date for the 2013 AASHE Conference, to be held in the "Greenest City in the Southeast", Nashville! Befitting of this year's conference theme, "Resiliency & Adaptation," AASHE 2013 is taking place in a city that is part of the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, has a comprehensive strategy to ensure consistent access to an affordable, sustainable and nutritious food system, and features a new residential energy efficiency program that provides free in-home energy evaluations and other financial incentives to Nashville homeowners. [Click here](#) for up-to-

www.ticketsnashville.com and www.WilsonCountyFair.net with a credit card. Tickets will be on sale until 48 hours prior to departure or until they are sold out, whichever comes first. Read more [here](#).

MTA expands bus services for Nashville/Murfreesboro and Nashville/Clarksville routes

The Nashville MTA has added a Bus Rapid Transit lite (BRT lite) bus service on [Murfreesboro Pike](#) to help expedite travel on this busy route. Additionally, more trips and a new stop have been added to the [RTA Clarksville Express](#) bus service. Additional information can be found at the MTA [homepage](#). To find more options for sustainable transportation, visit [SustainVU's transportation page](#).



VU Power Plant to Convert to All Natural Gas – FAQs available

Have questions about the VU Power Plant conversion to all natural gas? Visit [SustainVU](#) to read FAQs about the conversion and stay up-to-date with the construction progress! The conversion will replace the coal-fired boilers with natural gas boilers while retaining the same power generation capacity over the next three years.



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.

date conference information.



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