

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

Green St. Patrick's Day – March 17

Join the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO) and Vanderbilt Dining on the Wall from 11 AM – 1 PM on Wednesday, March 17 to learn about environmentally and socially-responsible food choices, to find out about Vanderbilt Dining's sustainable practices and to sample yummy green treats. [Read more...](#)

***DIRT! The Movie* – March 20**

Join Independent Televisions Service (ITVS) on Saturday, March 20 in the Nashville Public Library at 2:30 PM for a screening of *DIRT! The Movie*. The film illustrates the sustainable relationship between humans and dirt through discussions of the environmental, economic,

Despite a chilly, snowy start to 2010, signs of Spring are emerging all over campus! There are numerous green events, sustainability opportunities, and exciting announcements in the coming weeks that we'd like to share with you. More information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#). As a reminder, please become a fan of our new [SustainVU Facebook page](#) and get up-to-the-minute sustainability news and join our discussions. Here's to an environmentally-friendly start to Spring and a Green St. Patrick's Day!

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**Benson and Library Archives
awarded LEED Certifications**

social and political impact that the soil has on earth. [Read more...](#)

Strategies for Adaptation across the Sustainability Curriculum – March 22-23

Join the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and Second Nature on March 22-23 at Wake Forest University to learn how institutions of higher education are adapting to support the collaborative endeavors of faculty and staff and the roles that administrative leaders play in sustainability curricula. Participants will learn from case studies presented and will have an opportunity to develop strategies for implementation on their own campuses. [Read more...](#)

SPEAR Climate Connections Day – March 25

Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility (SPEAR) will host a Climate Connections Day on Thursday, March 25, focusing on the intersections of climate change with other topics that affect our lives. Join SPEAR for their Climate Connections Carnival from 1 – 5 PM on Alumni Lawn, featuring music, games, art, tie-dye, and more, and a 7 PM screening of National Geographic's *Six Degrees Could Change the World* (location TBA). [Click here](#) to visit SPEAR's website!

THESA Sustainability Conference – March 31-

Benson Hall and the Library's Archival Storage Facility recently received LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building



Council. LEED certification recognizes buildings that were designed and constructed to certain specifications of water conservation, energy efficiency, and waste minimization. Benson Hall is home of the English and History departments while the Library's Archival Storage Facility holds the university's historical documents, drawings, books and special collections. [Read the full press release](#) for more information.

Photo: Neil Brake/Vanderbilt University

VU plays lead role in new transit initiative



Vanderbilt has committed \$100,000 per year for the next three years to help fund the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee, a new nonprofit

that will promote public regional and local transportation. The Transit Alliance aims to stimulate community support for transit development, provide information on the benefits of transit, develop regional agreement on strategies for funding transit and advocate for dedicated funding for regional and local transit. [Read the MyVU article](#) for more details.

Campus Zipcar Program is a success

The Zipcar car-sharing program allows students, faculty and staff to rent one of five



cars on campus on an hourly or daily basis. Vanderbilt community members and departments may purchase a membership for \$35 per year; hourly usage rates range from \$7-10. Currently, 375 students, 75 faculty and staff

April 1

The Tennessee Higher Education Sustainability Association (THESA) is holding its 4th annual conference March 31-April 1 at Trevecca Nazarene University. This year's conference is themed "Higher Education & Sustainability in Tennessee: Making Inroads into Academia," and will feature national and regional speakers, including SEMO's Andrea George. [Read more...](#)



members and some departments participate in the program. [Read the InsideVandy article](#) to learn more.

New waterless urinals aid green efforts



In an effort to improve the efficiency of restrooms on Vanderbilt's campus, Plant

Operations aims to make all non-residential urinals waterless by 2013. According to Mark Petty, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Plant Operations, results have been positive thus far. The school has conserved "millions and millions" of gallons of water. Currently, 40 to 50 percent of public non-residential urinals are currently in the waterless format. [Read the entire InsideVandy article](#) to learn more!



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.

