

**SustainVU**  
*Growing Responsibly*

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

### **Earth Friendly Move-Out – Through May 15**

Vanderbilt student move-out generates many discarded items, such as bedding, mini-fridges, microwaves, TVs, computers, books, clothing, and more. Rather than having those items end up in dumpsters and eventually the landfill, Vanderbilt partners with local nonprofits to collect and reuse the items. [Read more...](#)

### **Free Recycling at Metro Convenience Centers – Through May 16**

To assist Davidson County residents with disposal of their household flood debris, Metro Public Works is waiving usual fees at its three Recycle Convenience Centers. Through May 16, metro residents will be able to make up to three (3) visits per day

We hope this finds you safe after the recent flooding events, and our sympathies go out to all those impacted! As the academic year comes to a close with Commencement, there are events and opportunities that we wanted to let you know about. Additional 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. Have a great green start to your summer!

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### **Vanderbilt University adds more green elements to Commencement**

Green printing, paper recycling, reducing plastic bottles and a reusable lunch bag are among the new green initiatives being implemented this year for Vanderbilt University's

free of charge. [Read more...](#)

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## **Bike to Work Day – May 21**

May is National Bike Month! Consider changing your daily routine and ride a bike to work, school, lunch, and other events on May 21. Ideas for celebrating Bike Month and Bike to Work Day in Nashville can also be found on the National Bike League's Nashville bike events website. [Read more...](#)

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## **Vanderbilt Farmers' Market – Thursdays beginning May 27**

Mark your calendars! Pick up some fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables on your way home from work starting May 27 at the weekly Vanderbilt Farmers' Market each Thursday from 3-6 pm on the Medical Center Plaza. [Read more...](#)

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## **Nashville: Naturally Workshop – June 3**

Join the Mayor's Office, the Land Trust for Tennessee and the Conservation Fund on June 3 at Belmont University for a day of workshops about how the community can make Nashville greener and more resilient. [Read more...](#)

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## **Fruits of the Backyard Field Day – June 15**

Fruits of the Backyard Field Day at the University of Tennessee's Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center is on June 15 at 8:30 AM. The free event will offer

Commencement activities.

Green printing practices have been used for some Commencement items. Paper recycling will also be offered for the first time this year for the programs and fans handed out to Commencement attendees. Plastic bottle, aluminum can, glass and cardboard recycling will continue to be offered as they have in the past.

This year, water bottles will not be handed out at Senior Day activities at all this year, although water stations for refilling cups and personal water bottles will be provided. At Commencement, smaller 12-ounce bottles will be handed out this year, and water stations will be provided. [Read the entire MyVU article.](#)

## **Cut Your Water Usage in Half**

In the wake of recent flooding events, Nashville city officials are asking people to cut their water usage by one half. Wondering how you can do so? Here are a few ideas:

- Don't water your lawns or plants
- Don't wash your car
- Only wash full loads of laundry when absolutely necessary
- Turn off the water while soaping up and shampooing in the shower, and while brushing your teeth
- Reuse the same drinking glass throughout the day, and put off washing your dirty dishes as long as possible

For a full list of tips, [check out the Cool People Care website.](#)

## **New MTA application for mobile phones**

Vanderbilt faculty and staff who ride the MTA buses or Music City Star now have a faster way to receive up-to-date bus information. RouteShout, a mobile phone application that delivers next bus arrival times, is now available for customers to receive MTA schedule information. Riders with iPhone or Android phones can download RouteShout for free via application stores. Any other mobile phone user can access RouteShout through the mobile Web site. [Read the entire press release](#) for more details.

## **Summer Internship Opportunities**

Power Down for the Planet is looking for college students with a passion for sustainability and green IT to serve as summer interns. [Read more...](#)

visitors an opportunity to learn more about gardening with a special focus on the production of small fruits like blueberries and grapes and attend a trade show. [Read more...](#)



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A summer paid internship with Nashville's Community Gardens and GROW Nashville is also available. Candidates should be 18 years and older and have some experience urban community gardening. Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume and three references to [christie.wiser@nashville.gov](mailto:christie.wiser@nashville.gov). Contact (615) 862-8539 with questions.



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.

