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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY



SustainVU

G r o w i n g R e s p o n s i b l y

December 2017

Congratulations to the Vanderbilt Football team on their win against Tennessee last weekend! Go 'Dores! The holiday season has arrived which presents unique challenges and opportunities to reducing your impact. We have two opportunities this month for students to make a big impact with the applications open for the Vanderbilt Green Fund and Urban Green Lab Internships. Think about how you can reduce waste during big meals and holiday gatherings by checking out our [Holiday Greening Guide](#) and the stories below, and please don't forget to power down your areas before leaving for the long break! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. Happy holidays and we hope you have a wonderfully sustainable New Year!

Andrea George, Director

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



Greening the Season – Holiday Waste Reduction Tips

Americans throw away [25% more waste](#) between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day than other parts of the year, which is about 1 million extra tons of trash

Annual Sarratt Holiday Arts Festival – December 1-9

Complete your gift giving list with sustainable and locally crafted gifts. Open daily from 10am–6pm, the show features jewelry, pottery, book arts, glass, ornaments, delicious gifts, special guests, artisans, and more. This is the perfect place to pick up a handmade and local gift for everyone on your holiday gift list! More information [here](#).

Tennessee Local Food Summit – December 1-3

The Tennessee Local Food Summit will feature Nashville's best chefs offering delicious, locally grown organic meals during a full day of educational workshops, networking, and the celebration of

per week each year! Here are some tips to reduce waste and lessen your impact this holiday season:

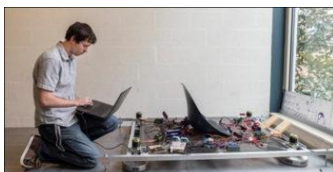


- Don't just toss empty cans, bottles, and other food packaging- recycle them!
- When doing your holiday shopping, avoid plastic bags. Ask for paper if available, or even better bring along reusable shopping bags!
- Many cartons (stock, juice cartons, soup boxes, etc.) can be recycled in the paper recycling stream.
- Use reusable plates and utensils whenever possible. Make sure you recycle plastic plates and cups if you must use them.
- Opt for fabric napkins and dish cloths instead of paper products. They can be easily tossed into the washer after the festivities.
- Take a few extra minutes to plan your menu and the amounts to cook. Preparing the right [portions](#) of food avoids food waste and saves you money.
- Consider sustainable food choices- organic veggies, fruits, meats, and [sustainably sourced seafood](#).
- At the end of the meal, send leftovers home with guests and think about composting any food scraps you might have during prep and after you eat.

Read the full story [here](#).



Battery-switching device promises more road time for Tesla, Leaf drivers



The Nissan Leaf, which goes about 107 miles on a charge, often doesn't graduate beyond commuter car status due to battery-life worries. The mass-market, standard Tesla Model 3

Nashville's existing local food movement. More information [here](#).

Organic Gardening – December 1

It's time to get your garden ready for next year. Learn all about planting and growing a beautiful organic garden by joining Deb Beazley at the Warner Park Nature Center from 9-10:30am. More information and registration [here](#).

First Friday Lunch and LEED: Arc and the LEED Performance Path – December 1

Learn what types of projects can pursue a LEED O+M certification, list key data categories to calculate a LEED Pilot Score, and many other objectives. The lunch will take place from 11:15am-12:30pm. More information [here](#).

Subways and Urban Air Pollution Seminar – December 4

Matthew Turner from Brown University will discuss his paper "Subways and Urban Pollution" about the relationship between the opening of a city's subway and network and its air quality. The seminar will be held in Calhoun 109 from 3:30-4:50pm.

can travel double that distance, which is still limiting on long road trips.

Both batteries could work about 50 percent longer with a device provisionally patented by Vanderbilt University's Ken Pence, professor of the practice of engineering management, and Tim Potteiger, a Ph.D. student in electrical engineering. It reconfigures modules in electric car battery packs to be online or offline—depending on whether they're going to pull down the other modules. Read more [here](#).



Vanderbilt Green Fund applications now open!

Have a sustainability idea that needs funding? [Applications](#) for The Vanderbilt Green Fund are now open! The Vanderbilt Green Fund, established in 2011 by members of SPEAR and VSG, is a fund set aside for sustainability projects proposed by students. This student-run process allocates \$150,000 to innovative and educational ideas that make Vanderbilt more environmentally friendly. **Final proposals are due January 23.** Read more [here](#).



Take the Resilient Nashville Perceptions Survey



The city of Nashville has joined many cities around the world in working to establish and maintain resilience. Mayor Barry recently created the Office of Resilience to lead efforts in preparing Nashville for 'shocks' such as floods and tornadoes, and 'stresses' such as problems with public transportation, affordable housing, and inequality. The Mayor's Office is asking Nashville residents to complete a [survey](#) about the current perception of resilience that the city has in order to guide the direction of resilience strategies.

West Nashville Transportation Solution Discussion – December 6

Come to the Open House to discuss and learn from Metro's experts on how Nashville's Transportation Solution will connect bus, light rail, driving, biking, and walking options in West Nashville and across the city. The open house will take place at the West Police Precinct from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. More information and links to other neighborhood open houses [here](#).

Engage Green: Zero Waste Living – December 6

Did you know that the average person produces 4.6 pounds of trash a day? Do you want to learn how to not be so trashy? [Eternal Returns](#), a local recycling and upcycling company, will be discussing zero waste living. The event will be held at Atamology at 6pm. More information and RSVP [here](#).

2017 Nashville Beautiful Art Contest and Rolling Art Museum – December 9

This contest allows 3rd and 4th grade students in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

[Vanderbilt University Public Safety](#) is requesting feedback from faculty, students, and staff on efforts to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety on and near the campus. VUPS asks that Vanderbilt community members complete a short survey through which they can provide feedback about recent safety enhancements as well as ideas for further improvements. Fill out the [survey](#) before December 15.



Urban Green Lab Internship

[Urban Green Lab](#) is looking for interns for their Mobile Lab and other educational programs in the spring semester! More information [here](#). Any questions should be sent to Rachael Woods at rachael@urbangreenlab.org.



Additionally, Metro's Office of General Services is also looking for a sustainability intern to assist with energy and electric



vehicle programs and the Socket Unplug Nashville initiative. More information is available [here](#). Any questions should be sent to Laurel Creech at laurel.creech@nashville.gov.



to create and showcase art that encourages education about the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling at home, at school, and in the community. The public viewing of their art will be at Nissan Stadium at 10am. More information [here](#).

Zero Waste Gifts – December 13

Learn about sustainable holiday gift giving with Erin Hendrickson, Urban Green Lab, and Team Green Adventures at Tennessee Brew Works from 6-8pm. Find out why 'less is more' this holiday season and how to practice zero-waste gift giving. More information [here](#).

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.

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