

Having trouble viewing this email? [View as a webpage.](#)

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY



SustainVU

Growing Responsibly



February 2019

Since February is a time to show love, don't forget to love the Earth too! There are many ways to show appreciation for Mother Earth this Valentine's Day: think about sending an e-Valentine or make your own from found or recycled materials, invest in potted plants or trees instead of fresh cut flowers. Two great ways to show the Earth some love is to share your best sustainability ideas for the Greenest Group on Campus competition and to learn about regenerative Living Buildings! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) page. SustainVU wishes you a lovely and green Valentine's Day!

Andrea George, Director

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

Turnip Green Creative Reuse: Dirt on Composting – February 2, 16

Learn more about composting and find ways to reduce your food waste. A Waste Reduction Educator will facilitate an interactive presentation and a hands on reuse art activity that will teach participants how to begin backyard composting. This event will be held at Turnip Green Creative Reuse at 945 Woodland St.



Third ‘Making Nashville Living Building Ready’ event is Jan. 31

The third in a series of focused discussions about the [Living Building Challenge](#) is scheduled for Jan. 31, 5pm in Featheringill Hall 134 and will address the challenges of creating a Living Building in Music City.



The event will be a case study of The Kendeda Building at Georgia Tech, presented by Lord Aeck Sargent, the architects designing the project, and will focus on materials. A reception sponsored by SESCO Lighting will follow the discussion.

This event is co-organized and presented by [FutureVU](#), the Vanderbilt student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, [the Wond’ry](#), the U.S. Green Building Council–Tennessee, AIA Middle Tennessee Committee on the Environment, Lord Aeck Sargent, and the Nashville Living Future Collaborative. Read more [here](#) and [RSVP Online](#).



Pioneering Vanderbilt School of Nursing building designed with health in mind



Health and well-being inform every part of [Vanderbilt University School of Nursing](#)’s new \$23.6 million

building expansion, which opened Jan. 22. The expansion was designed to target [LEED](#) Gold and [WELL](#) Silver certification. Once the certification process concludes, the university anticipates that

from 2-3pm. More information [here](#).

Sunrise Movement Event and Panel – February 5

Join Nashville’s Sunrise Hub in building support for the Green New Deal and the need for everyone to get serious about climate change. There will be a panel discussion with Vanderbilt professors at 6:30pm, followed by a live stream of the Green New Deal. Details and RSVP [here](#).

Animal Property Rights Lecture – February 6

Join the [Energy and Environmental Law Society](#) and the [Energy, Environment and Land Use Program](#) for a lecture by Professor Karen Bradshaw of Arizona State University. Fish and wildlife populations have recently suffered staggering losses. This lecture will explore a new legal approach to protect these overlooked creatures. More information [here](#).

Tour the Recycling Center – February 13. 27

The Waste Management Materials

this building will be the first complete, ground-up structure in Nashville to carry the WELL designation.

The WELL Building Standard is a performance-based system of measuring, certifying and monitoring features that affect human health and well-being in the built environment, including air quality, water, nourishment, light, fitness, comfort, and mind.

“Nursing embraces a holistic view of health and seeks to care for the entire person. Likewise, our expansion was built with a holistic view of enhancing all of its occupants’ well-being and health,” said Dean [Linda D. Norman](#), the Valere Menefee Potter Professor of Nursing. Read more [here](#).



Engineering and Science Building awarded LEED Gold

The Engineering and Science Building has been awarded [LEED](#) Gold status by the U.S. Green Building Council.



LEED or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, status is the rating system used to rank buildings of all types as certified, silver, gold or platinum based on the building’s environmental and cost-saving green features.

“Receiving gold status shows we are on the right path when we carry out building and renovating on campus,” said Mike Perez, associate vice chancellor of administration for facilities. “Making sure we are approaching these projects with long-term sustainability in mind has been a significant, progressive shift since the launch of FutureVU.” Vanderbilt has 19 LEED certified buildings on campus. Read more [here](#).



Recovery Facility is offering a free tour of the recycling center. Sponsored by Metro Nashville Public Works and Turnip Green Creative Reuse, the tour will include an hour-long interactive presentation and opportunity to see how the machines work to sort the materials. The tour will be held at the River Hills Recycling Center from 1-2pm. More information [here](#).

VU Life Phase Series: ‘Raised-Bed Gardening with an Expert’ – February 26

Join Laura Barker, a horticultural specialist with Vanderbilt Plant Operations’ Grounds Maintenance team, to discuss raised-bed gardening. The event will take place from 4-5:30pm at the Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center teaching kitchen. More information [here](#).

Behavioral Wedge Workshop – February 28-March 1

A conference discussing the 10th anniversary of the Behavioral Wedge will be held on February 28 and March 1 in Flynn Auditorium at the

Carbon labeling can reduce greenhouse gases even if it doesn't change consumer behavior



In a new commentary piece published Dec. 18 in *Nature Climate Change*, [Michael Vandenberg](#), David Daniels Allen

Distinguished Professor of Law and director of the VU Climate Change Research Network, examines how carbon labeling can help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in a variety of ways.

One of the most important ways that individuals can reduce greenhouse gases is by reducing the proportion of meat in their diets, Vandenberg and Nielsen write. Plant-based foods have a much smaller carbon footprint than meat—but research shows that consumers often don't know that, or have any idea how carbon-intensive their food is at all.

Carbon labeling is one way that researchers have proposed to address that knowledge deficit and give consumers an easy way to make more environmentally sensitive choices if they wish. Read more [here](#).



Vanderbilt Law School. This event is sponsored by the Energy, Environment and Land Use Program, the Climate Change Research Network, and the Vanderbilt Institute for Energy and Environment. More information to come.

River Talks: TN H2O: Tennessee's Roadmap to Securing the Future of Water Resources – February 28

Join the discussion for future water availability in TN with a panel of leaders from the TN H2O Steering Committee and Working Groups. The discussion will focus on the plan to study the current state of water resources. The discussion will be held at the Cumberland River Compact from 12-1pm. More information and registration [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.

Follow us on our social media accounts!

We have added more accounts to our social media arsenal! Here are more ways you can connect with us online:





Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action. Vanderbilt®, Vanderbilt University®, V Oak Leaf Design®, Star V Design® and Anchor Down® are trademarks of The Vanderbilt University. ©2019 Vanderbilt University. All rights reserved.

