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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY



SustainVU

Growing Responsibly



March 2019

The start of spring is right around the corner! Don't forget to adjust your thermostats for the rapidly changing weather this time of year – 68 for heat and 75 for cooling. TVA has opened a public comment period for their new Integrated Resource Plan, see below for details on how to provide your thoughts! There are lots of events and on-campus lectures this month, you can even get out in your community and plant a tree for 250K Tree Day. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) page. We wish you a green start to spring!

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Arbor Day – March 7

The Nashville Arbor Day Ceremony will honor our city trees which provide beauty and homes for birds, clean the air, and mitigate stormwater. The event will take place 11am-12pm at the East Park Community Center. Read more [here](#).

“Better Performance through Benchmarking at Music City Center” – March 8

This presentation by Music City Center's Sustainability Coordinator Renee

Vanderbilt Emphasizes Safe Electric Scooter Use



Electric scooter use throughout the university campus has steadily increased since their

arrival in Nashville last fall. This convenient new mode of transportation encourages sustainable methods of transportation and aligns with FutureVU's mobility goals. However, Eric Kopstain, vice chancellor for administration, emphasized the importance of safety, saying "Continuing to educate our campus community to remain engaged and act responsibly while using scooters is paramount."

For this reason, the vice chancellor's office has established an educational outreach group to teach the community the best practices for dockless bikes and electric scooters. This group created a [safety video](#) outlining the standard etiquette for using electric scooters on campus. Read more about this story and the do's and don'ts for scooter use [here](#).



Campus Dining to Install New Technology for Composting

Since composting was implemented in all dining locations in the fall of 2018, executive director campus dining,



David Ter Kuile, said that Vanderbilt has been "saving over 30,000 pounds of waste per month from entering the landfill." In order to better track the progress Campus Dining is making, they will be partnering with Leanpath to install three new monitoring technologies: the Leanpath360, Leanpath Zap, and Leanpath 360FS. This equipment will be used to monitor data such as food types, waste resources, and loss reasons. Read more [here](#).



Barker will explore how the LEED Gold certified MCC evaluates building performance in the areas of energy, water, and waste. Read more [here](#).

Mr. Bond and the Science Guys – March 9

This team of "edutainers" – teachers and entertainers—perform hands-on science shows where everyone in the audience has the opportunity to do an experiment. This event will be held at the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center from 10-11am. More information [here](#).

Environmental Justice Panel Discussion – March 15

The Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies is cosponsoring a discussion panel with guest speakers from Ohio State, Virginia Tech, and Colorado State universities to discuss environmental justice. The discussion will be from 3-4:30pm in Buttrick 101. Read more [here](#).

"Enabling High Energy Long Life Rechargeable

Food Waste Documentary Screening at Sarratt Cinema



Campus Dining will be hosting a screening of *Just Eat It: A food waste story* at Sarratt Cinema on March 12.

Filmmakers and food lovers Jen and Grant dive into the issue of waste from farm, through retail, all the way to the back of their own fridge.

Featuring interviews with TED lecturer, author and activist Tristram Stuart and acclaimed author Jonathan Bloom, *Just*

Eat It looks at our systemic obsession with expiry dates, perfect produce and portion sizes, and reveals the core of this seemingly insignificant issue that is having devastating consequences around the globe. *Just Eat It* brings farmers, retailers, inspiring organizations, and consumers to the table in a cinematic story that is equal parts education and delicious entertainment. Read more [here](#).



TVA Releases Draft Integrated Resource Plan and Environmental Impact Statement For Public Review and Comment

TVA released its draft 2019 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on Feb. 15. The 2019 IRP is a comprehensive study that

provides direction on how TVA can best deliver clean, reliable and affordable energy in the Valley over the next 20 years. TVA will offer numerous ways for you to learn more and to provide input. TVA will collect [public comments](#) until April 8 and is hosting public meetings throughout March, with their March

2019 Integrated Resource Plan

VOLUME I - DRAFT RESOURCE PLAN



Batteries by Advanced Materials Diagnosis and Operando Characterization” – March 20

Join Dr. Shirley Meng from the Sustainable Power and Energy Center at the University of California San Diego as she speaks about her work with the Laboratory for Energy Storage & Conversion. The event will take place at 4:10pm in Featheringill Hall room 134. Read more [here](#).

TVA Integrated Resource Plan Public Meeting – March 21

TVA is hosting a series of public meeting on its draft 2019 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The March 21 meeting will be held at Vanderbilt at 5pm, location TBD. Read more [here](#).

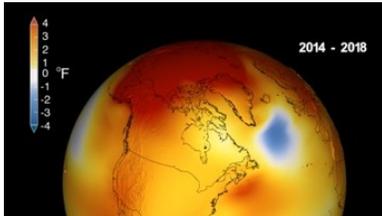
250K Tree Day – March 23

Tree Day 2019 is the largest community tree-planting project of its kind in America, during which volunteer participants will plant up to 250,000 native tree-seedlings in all 95 Tennessee counties. More information [here](#).

21 meeting being held at Vanderbilt at 5pm. See the schedule of talks, provide public comments, and read more [here](#).



2018 Fourth Warmest Year in Continued Warming Trend, According to NASA, NOAA



Earth's global surface temperature in 2018 was the fourth warmest since 1880, according to independent analyses by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Global temperatures in 2018 were 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit (0.83 degrees Celsius) warmer than the 1951 to 1980 mean, according to scientists at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York. Globally, 2018's temperatures rank behind those of 2016, 2017 and 2015. The past five years are, collectively, the warmest years in the modern record.

"2018 is yet again an extremely warm year on top of a long-term global warming trend," said GISS Director Gavin Schmidt. Read more [here](#).



"A Dam for Africa: The Volta River Project and Modernization in Postcolonial Ghana" Seminar – March 27

Join Stephan Miescher and R. Lane Clark to discuss Miescher's forthcoming book, "A Dam for Africa: The Volta River Project and Modernization in Postcolonial Ghana". The event will be 12-1:30pm at the Warren Center for Humanities. This seminar will be coupled with an evening film screening of their documentary "Ghana's Electric Dreams". Read more and RSVP [here](#).

"Rising from the Ashes: Remaking Community around Conflict and Coal" – March 28

Join Warren Center Graduate Student Fellow Emma Banks for a public lecture in the Robert Penn Warren Center Conference Room at 4:10pm. 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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