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SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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Puttin' the Tree in Country – Throughout November

Volunteer to plant trees throughout November. Events will take place throughout the Nashville area. All volunteers will receive a complimentary one-year membership to the Tennessee Environmental Council. Events will be held at Sevenmile Creek Nov. 1; Whites Creek Nov. 5, 8, 12, & 15; and Rock Springs Branch Nov. 19 & 22. Click [here](#) for registration and more information.

World Vegan Day – November 1

Did you know that one of the most effective ways to lower your carbon footprint is to reduce your animal product consumption? Created in

We are pleased to announce that Vanderbilt's greenhouse gas emissions are now 17% less than in 2008! GHG emissions have also been reduced by more than 27% per person on campus and by 35% per research dollar. A huge pat on the back to everyone who is helping out by turning off lights and computers, moderating thermostats, and using mass transit to get back and forth to campus...we salute you! More good news...the holidays are just around the corner, so be sure to check out our [Holiday Greening Guide](#) for tips on making your holiday events more sustainable! Other exciting events going on this month include America Recycles Day on November 15 and the last three home football games of the season. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). We are extremely thankful for you and all that you do to make Vanderbilt more sustainable!

Andrea George, Director
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1994, World Vegan Day celebrates awareness about veganism. This year WVD is hoping that a record number of people will pledge to try 'plant based eating' at least for one day. You can take a pledge online and learn more [here](#).

America Recycles Day – November 15

[America Recycles Day](#), a program of Keep America Beautiful, is a nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States. [Take the Pledge](#) to recycle today, and every day, to make a difference in your community! If you snap a selfie while recycling this month, share it using #RecyclingSelfie for a chance to win a prize from Keep America beautiful!

International Compost Awareness Week Poster Contest – November 15

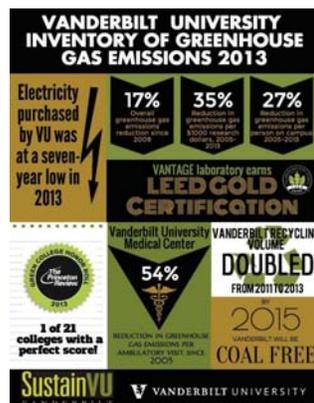
Participants are encouraged to submit a design that reflects the theme “Be Loyal to Your Soil: Compost!” Posters must be submitted to the USCC by noon on Saturday November 15, 2014 to be eligible. Online judging will take place in November. The overall winner will receive a \$500 prize; and divisional winners will be highlighted on the USCC website and social media

Clean Air Family 5K – November 16

Come out and run or walk in the Clean Air Family 5K at Shelby Park at 2pm, all proceeds of which will go



Vanderbilt greenhouse gas emissions down 27% per person



Vanderbilt's [Sustainability and Environmental Management](#)

[Office \(SEMO\)](#) recently

released an updated [inventory](#) of greenhouse gas (GHG)

emissions for the calendar years 2005 to 2013 to mark

Campus Sustainability Day,

October 22, 2014. This [report](#)

illustrates Vanderbilt's current

carbon footprint and provides trending information over the past nine years.

Overall GHG emissions from the campus and medical center decreased by 17 percent from the all-time high reached in 2008 and by 12 percent from 2005 to 2013, even though VU has seen significant growth in square footage, students, patient care, and research dollars during this time. When growth is taken into account, GHG emissions have been reduced by more than 27% per person on campus and by 35% per research dollar since 2005.

Quantifying GHG emissions over time allows the Vanderbilt community to better understand its own unique impact on the environment now and in the past and determine the most effective improvement strategies to implement in the future.

One major improvement already in the works is the [conversion](#) of Vanderbilt's power plant from being fueled by both coal and natural gas to being fueled entirely by natural gas. "The co-generation facility conversion to all natural gas modernizes and improves the efficiency of our plant and will also significantly reduce our GHG emissions in the future", explained Mark Petty, assistant vice chancellor of Plant Operations. Read the [full article](#) and see the [GHG Report here](#).

Teresa Goddu Receives 2014 Chancellor's Cup

toward [Climate Nashville](#), a coalition of local businesses working to promote sustainable energy policies. The race will start at the Shelby Park Greenway, run along the Cumberland River, and end by looping around the Shelby Park Lake. There will also be a 1K fun run and many more activities and amenities, including live music and free beer. See more details and register [here](#).

Radnor Lake State Park Volunteer Days – November 22

Volunteers and park rangers meet on the fourth Saturday of each month from 8 AM to noon for conservation work at Radnor Lake State Park. Projects include “exotic plant removal, mulching trails and planting native vegetation.” Rangers will provide water, insect repellent and other supplies; all you need to do is show up. More info [here](#).

MTA’s Fareless Friday – November 28

The Nashville MTA and Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) are offering free rides on all MTA and RTA buses and the Music City Star the Friday after Thanksgiving, which is known as “Black Friday.” The day is traditionally the first official shopping day of the holiday season. You can also take advantage if you have to work that day! Service for both the MTA and RTA will begin early Friday morning on November 28 and will end when the buses and regional train complete their final runs late Friday night. For



SustainVU is extremely pleased to congratulate Dr. Teresa Goddu who recently won the VU Chancellor’s Cup for her outstanding leadership activities in the areas of sustainability and American Studies. Dr. Goddu’s [Sustainability Project](#) provided funding for SustainVU’s 2012 [Green Bag Lunch series](#). Additionally, SEMO partnered with the American Studies department on a number of the Sustainability Project’s initiatives throughout 2011 to 2013.

Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos presented the 2014 Chancellor’s Cup to Associate Professor of English Teresa Goddu during a surprise ceremony Oct. 7. The Chancellor’s Cup is given annually for “the greatest contribution outside the classroom to undergraduate student-faculty relationships in the recent past.” [Click here](#) to read the full story from MyVU.

SEMO has a new Sustainability Outreach Coordinator



Please join us in welcoming Chelsea Hamilton, our new sustainability outreach coordinator! Chelsea joined SEMO October 1 and can be reached at chelsea.l.hamilton@vanderbilt.edu or 615.322.9022. Chelsea is a Vanderbilt graduate with degrees in biology and

anthropology and will complete her master’s in sustainability from Lipscomb University this semester. Chelsea was a former summer intern with SEMO as well as the Go Green coordinator for Village Real Estate Services. We are thrilled to have her on board!

Vanderbilt Donates 35 Tons of Wood Chips to Radnor Lake

MTA and RTA schedule information, visit [Nashville MTA](#) or [Music City Star](#).

Buy Nothing Day – November 29

The journey toward a sane sustainable future begins with a single step. It could all start with a personal challenge, such as this: make a vow to yourself to participate in Buy Nothing Day this year. This November 29th, go cold turkey on consumption for 24 hours ... see what happens ... you just might have an unexpected, emancipatory epiphany! Join millions of us in over 60 countries on November 29/30 and see what it feels like. More info [here](#).

“Commons Unplugged” – February 15 – 21, 2015

Promote your organization at the first annual “Commons Unplugged” event this fall. If you or your group is interested in tabling at the Green Fair to be held Tuesday, February 16 from 5:00pm – 9:00pm, please email sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu.

Nashville Area Farmers’ Markets

Nashville is lucky to have many local farmers’ market options where we can enjoy fresh, seasonal, local food. Most markets will be open through late November. For details on days and times, check out: [12 South Farmers’ Market](#) (Tuesdays) and [West End Farmers Market at Vine Street](#) (Saturdays). The downtown [Nashville Farmers’ Market](#) is open year-round –



VU Plant Operations groundskeeping department and the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO) donated 5 dump truck loads, or 35 tons, of wood chips last week to TN State Parks to be used on walking paths at Radnor Lake State Natural area. These wood chips resulted from downed tree limbs and tree maintenance on campus and needed to be removed to prepare for the fall/winter leaf composting. Instead of sending the waste to the local landfill, the material found a beneficial reuse to help out a local park and saved the University in \$1000 in avoided landfill fees. Reduce, reuse and recycle!

This beneficial reuse project was a collaboration between Vanderbilt [Plant Operations](#), the Vanderbilt [Sustainability and Environmental Management Office](#), [Waste Management](#), and [Tennessee State Parks](#).

Nashvillians can save \$804 a month by riding transit



Nashville residents who ride public transit can save \$804 a month according to data released by the [Nashville MTA](#) and the American Public

Transportation Association (APTA). The savings calculations are based on the price of regular gasoline in Metro Nashville in August 2014, average fixed costs that include insurance and maintenance, and the city’s most recent average unreserved monthly parking rate.

Vanderbilt also offers multiple options for [alternative transportation](#) that can get you where you’re going, while saving fuel and money and the hassle of finding parking.

merchant times vary. Find more information [here](#).



More information on MTA bus services is available [online](#). Read the full article [here](#).

Campus trees celebrated with new website, mobile device tours



The Vanderbilt campus is 330 acres in the heart of a major metropolitan city. Its lush, park-like setting boasts more than 6,000 trees and shrubs representing some 190 different species.

Anyone walking the campus today might find it hard to imagine that at its founding in 1873 on several tracts of farmland, the university had very few trees. Soon after convincing Cornelius Vanderbilt to found the university, [Bishop Holland McTyeire](#) began to shape the physical campus through a massive tree-planting campaign.

McTyeire's efforts—as well as those of many who followed—are celebrated in a new website, the [Vanderbilt Arboretum](#). The site provides a detailed [history of](#) Vanderbilt's trees, information on [different species](#) and where they're located, [blog posts](#) chronicling individual experiences and reflections, mobile device-assisted [tree tours](#), and more.

Read the full article from [MyVU here](#). Get updates on the trees of Vanderbilt on [Facebook](#), or follow on Twitter [@vutrees](#).



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.

