

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

Metro Nashville Christmas Tree Recycling Drop-Off – Through Feb. 17

Davidson County residents can recycle their live Christmas trees at several Metro sites this holiday season. Metro Public Works will collect the trees for mulching at the city's Bordeaux Mulch Facility. All trees must be free of lights, ornaments, icicles, all tinsel and garland. No flocked trees will be accepted. [Read more...](#)

Nature Movie Marathon – Jan. 14

Don't let winter weather keep you from enjoying nature. Shelby Bottoms Nature Center will be bringing nature indoors by hosting a nature movie marathon on Saturday, January 14 at 11 am. Reservations are

Happy New Year from SustainVU! We hope that you had an enjoyable and sustainable holiday season! Don't forget to stay warm while conserving energy this winter by adjusting your thermostat to 68-70 degrees F for maximum efficiency, dressing for the season and in layers, and opening window shades to take advantage of natural light and heating from the sun. If you're looking for ways to reduce your environmental impact in 2012, check out Yahoo Green's list of [top ten ways to be green!](#) We'd like to share with you several green events and sustainability opportunities coming up this month – more information can always be found on both the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Best wishes to you for an eco-friendly 2012!

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required. [Read more...](#)

Bike Maintenance Basics – Jan. 17

On Tuesday, January 17 at 7 pm at REI in Brentwood, learn how to lube a chain, fix a flat tire in record time, and make other minor adjustments to your bicycle. This event is free and open to the public; reservations are required. [Read more...](#)

Nashville Green Drinks – Jan. 18

On Wednesday, January 18 from 6 – 9 pm, participate in Nashville Green Drinks, an organic, casual, self-organized meet up of like-minded professionals with a focus on sustainability. Nashville Green Drinks will take place at Village Pub. [Read more...](#)

ASCE Sustainability Workshop – Jan. 19

Join local and national sustainability leaders to learn how you can incorporate the principles of sustainability into the practice of civil engineering at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Sustainability Workshop, “Integrated Approach to Sustainability,” on Thursday, January 19 at the Sheraton Music City Hotel. Member, non-member, and student registration rates are available. [Read more...](#)

Sustainability Project Speaker: Lewis Hyde – Jan. 19

Vanderbilt Campus expands plastic recycling collections



The Vanderbilt campus recycling program is expanding plastics collection to include containers numbered with resin codes 1-7. Up to this point, recycling vendor restrictions have only allowed for recycling of plastic bottles with resin codes 1 and 2 on

Vanderbilt’s campus. Plastics are generally marked with a resin code on the bottom of the container depicting a number 1-7 within a triangle of chasing arrows, which corresponds to the type of plastic. So what plastics can and cannot be recycled in the new system?

–**YES:** Plastic containers, cups, bottles, bottle tops and lids numbered 1-7 (please rinse!)

–**NO:** Food or liquids; Styrofoam; plastic bags or film; motor oil, insecticide, herbicide or hazardous chemical containers

Plastic containers 1-7 are currently being accepted in all plastics recycling bins on campus. Signs are still being updated, so please feel free to recycle plastic containers 1-7 in any plastics recycling bin regardless of signage. For more information about recycling at Vanderbilt, visit [SustainVU](#), contact recycle@vanderbilt.edu or call 343-2784 (E.ARTH on campus).

Vandy basketball fans encouraged to recycle

Ann Marie Deer Owens, senior public affairs officer for Vanderbilt News and Communications, recently spoke with SEMO staff



regarding recycling opportunities available to fans at Vanderbilt men’s and women’s home basketball games. Commodore fans are encouraged to use large green bins located throughout the concourse in Memorial Gym to recycle their **empty plastic** bottles, commemorative cups, and popcorn containers. Pizza boxes, paper, napkins, nacho containers, and other food contaminated containers cannot be recycled in these bins. Please do your part to green the Commodore Nation!

[Listen to an interview with SEMO staff regarding basketball recycling opportunities!](#) For more information about recycling at

On Thursday, January 19, the American Studies Sustainability Project will host poet, essayist, translator, and cultural critic Lewis Hyde. His talk will discuss defending the cultural commons and will discuss take place at 4 pm in Wilson 115. [Read more...](#)

“Changing the Way We Eat” – Jan. 21

Watch and discuss a three-part webcast on the Local Food Movement from the award-winning nonprofit TED agency on Saturday, January 21 at 9:30 am at the Goodwill Lifsey Center. The webcast features a variety of speakers from the local and slow food movements who will discuss the importance of redefining the way we grow and eat food. [Read more...](#)

Cold Weather Bike Riding – Jan. 23

On Monday, January 23 at 7 pm at REI in Brentwood, get prepared to ride in cooler weather and learn how to use a cycle trainer so that you can maintain performance levels throughout the winter. This event is free and open to the public; reservations are required. [Read more...](#)

Campus Sustainable Food Options and Cooking with Herbs – Jan. 25

On Wednesday, January 25 from noon to 1 pm in Sarratt 189, join us for the fifth Green Bag Luncheon, which will be a presentation, demonstration, and discussion on campus

basketball games, please email recycle@vanderbilt.edu.

Jan. 25 Green Bag Luncheon to focus on campus sustainable food options and cooking with herbs



SEMO and the [American Studies Sustainability Project](#) will sponsor the fifth installment of the Green Bag Luncheon Series on **Wednesday, January 25 from noon to 1 pm in Sarratt 189**. Join Suzanne Herron of [VU Dining](#) for a presentation and discussion on sustainable food options offered in dining establishments on campus. The second half of the program presented by Stacey Kendrick of [Health Plus](#) will feature several healthy recipes that incorporate fresh herbs, taste delicious and are easy for you to make at home. So bring your lunch, stop by for some delicious samples, and join us to learn about fresh and local food options on campus and for the dishes you create!

Individuals who attend three or more sessions of the year-long Green Bag lunch series will be entered in a drawing to receive one of two larger giveaways! All Green Bag lunch sessions are free and open to Vanderbilt community members. A video of the session will be posted on the [SustainVU](#) and [Vanderbilt News](#) websites. You can find a list of upcoming Green Bag Lunch sessions at SustainVU's [Green Bag Luncheon Series page](#).

Calling all VU students!

–Vanderbilt Student Government and SEMO have created a list of the [Top Ways to Think Gold and Act Green at Vanderbilt](#). Check them out to learn how you can reduce your environmental impact on campus through energy and water conservation, waste reduction and recycling, alternative transportation, and more!



–SEMO and Eco-Dores peer residential sustainability educators are working on a recycling video to publicize expanding plastics collection to include containers with resin codes 1-7. If you are interested in getting involved with the creation of this video, please contact recycle@vanderbilt.edu.

–The Middle TN Chapter of the USGBC would like to gauge student interest in



sustainable food options and cooking with herbs led by VU Dining's Suzanne Herron and Health Plus' Stacey Kendrick. [Read more...](#)

Vegetarian/Vegan Dinner – Jan. 25

Join VU Dining on Wednesday, January 25 from 5 to 7 pm at Rand Dining Hall for a special dinner event! The menu for the evening will feature tasty vegetarian and vegan food dishes. This is a student meal plan event. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Membership Meeting – Jan. 27

Join the USGBC of Middle TN for their monthly membership meeting on Friday, January 27 at 11:30 am at the Adventure Science Center. A buffet style lunch will be served. Cost is \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. RSVP is appreciated. [Read more...](#)

Energy (and Money!) Saving Workshop – Jan. 28

Are you paying too much for energy? Want easy ways to save on your NES bills? Attend this free workshop at Shelby Bottoms Nature Center led by Jennifer Barrie of *Kilowatt Ours* and learn how to save costs! Snacks, prizes and energy saving kits for each participating household! Reservations are required. [Read more...](#)

starting a [USGBC Students](#) chapter at Vanderbilt. USGBC Students provides a way for hundreds of young leaders to come together and participate in hands-on green building experiences on their own campuses through service initiatives. USGBC helps students integrate sustainability themes into their coursework and advocate for sustainable university practices and policies. If any of these initiatives align with other student groups on campus, a big difference between them is that the students will have access to 80 USGBC national chapters across the country, resulting in increased networking, leadership training, career fairs, access to LEED resources, and more. Anyone interested in getting involved and learning more should contact [Hayley King](#).

Extreme weather calls for extreme measures according to IPCC special report



Member governments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently approved the Summary for Policy

Makers of a special report, "Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation." The summary discusses how proper disaster risk management and adaptation, ranging from improvements in governance and technology to early-warning systems, insurance coverage modifications, infrastructure changes and more, can assist communities with varying social and economic characteristics that are particularly susceptible to increased extreme weather events in minimizing the risk and damaging impacts of such occurrences. Like previous IPCC reports, the summary concludes that there is plenty of proof that the world's temperatures are rising, the number of extreme weather events each year is increasing, and that these changes in the earth's climate and weather patterns are likely anthropogenic, that is, caused or produced by humans. Warmer days, heat waves, intense storms, floods, droughts, and other severe weather events are "forecasted" in the world's future.

The [summary for policy makers](#) was released prior to November's UN Climate Change Conference in Durban, South Africa. The full report will be available in February.





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