

Greetings from SustainVU - we hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer day! Be sure to check out the new Vandy Farmer's Market which is every Thursday from 3-6pm between MCN and Eskin Library near McDonald's. They are open right now and have an amazing assortment of certified organic, straight from the farm vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers. The blueberries are wonderful!

If you are a big fan of Nashville's waterfront fireworks show on July 4, consider taking mass transit as an environmentally-friendly, hassle-free way to get there. There is still time to purchase tickets on the Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) special July 4 Music City Star Train to the Nashville fireworks at Riverfront Park. More than 300 of the 900 tickets have been sold.

Roundtrip tickets cost \$10 and are available for purchase at Music City Central, which is located at 400 Charlotte Ave., on the Music City Star Web site at <http://www.musiccitystar.org/>, or with a credit card over the phone by calling (615) 862-5925. Online tickets will be on sale until 4 p.m. Friday, June 26 or until they are sold out, whichever comes first. Tickets will not be for sale July 4 on the platforms. Parking is free at all of the outlying stations.

Our very own Steve Gild, Environmental Management Systems coordinator in the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO), and his wife and three sons were the first family in Nashville to take Mayor Karl Dean's Green Pledge prior to the Sounds baseball game on Saturday, June 13. The mayor kicked off his environmental pledge campaign at the Sounds second annual "Go Green Night."

The Green Pledge includes five simple things:

ENERGY

I PLEDGE to replace 4 light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs.
I CAN eliminate 1 ton of carbon dioxide emissions over the life of the CFLs.
TOGETHER all Nashvillians can save enough kilowatt-hours to power 5,260 households.

WATER

I PLEDGE to turn off the water when brushing my teeth.
I CAN save 3.8 gallons of water a day.
TOGETHER all Nashvillians can conserve enough water in a year to fill L.P. Field four times.

AIR

I PLEDGE to replace at least one car trip a week with walking, bicycling, carpooling or public transit.
I CAN decrease carbon dioxide emissions by 1,000 pounds.
TOGETHER all Nashvillians can eliminate more than 290,000 tons of carbon dioxide, the equivalent to removing 5,800 cars from the road every year.

LAND

I PLEDGE to plant and care for at least one tree this year.
I CAN save at least 13 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere annually.
TOGETHER all Nashvillians can eliminate as much carbon dioxide as the

trees on 4,652 acres of undeveloped land every year.

WASTE

I PLEDGE to reduce my use of plastic shopping bags, by substituting reusable bags instead.

I CAN save up to 208 plastic bags a year from being made.

TOGETHER all Nashvillians can eliminate 120,400,000 plastic bags and 2,257,000 pounds of waste every year.

If you would like to participate and take the Mayor's Green Pledge, please go to www.nashville.gov/green/. As we move into the hottest time of the year, these actions are more important than ever. Every summer, electricity and water consumption peak, and we have many Air Alert days in Nashville due to poor air quality. By signing on to the Mayor's Green Pledge, you are making a commitment to take a few small steps each day to improve our community. All of our small steps working together become one giant leap forward for Nashville and for Vanderbilt!

Andrea

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SustainVU – Growing Responsibly
www.vanderbilt.edu/SustainVU