

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY

VU Farmers' Market – Thursdays through October 27

The Vanderbilt Farmers' Market features fresh fruits, vegetables, locally farmed meat, dairy, cheeses and bread from local farmers and vendors. The market is open each Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. from June 2 – Oct. 27 in the Medical Center Plaza across from Langford Auditorium and at One Hundred Oaks next to the Cinema (One Hundred Oaks market begins June 9). Cash, check, and credit and debit cards are accepted (some vendors are cash or check only). [Read more...](#)

AHS National Trails Day – June 4

June 4 is the American Hiking Society's National Trails Day, an opportunity get outside and celebrate

We hope that your summer has gotten off to a great start! As the cicadas multiply, temperatures rise, and days get longer, there are numerous green events, opportunities, and news stories that we would like to share with you. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Don't forget to moderate thermostat settings to 76-78 degrees F (and more radically when you leave for the day, weekend, or vacation), dress for the weather, and close window shades or blinds during the hottest part of the day to keep heat out and cool air in. If your office or area seems unusually cold or hot or you have trouble regulating the temperature, please call VU Plant Operations at 4-9675 or VUMC Plant Services at 2-2041 to let them know. Visit the [ThinkOne website](#) for additional energy conservation recommendations. Have a wonderful, green June!

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the environment and natural surroundings through trail maintenance, hiking, paddling, biking, horseback riding, walking, bird watching, and more! Several events are scheduled in Middle Tennessee.

[Read More...](#)

World Environment Day – June 5

The United Nations Environment Programme celebrates World Environment Day, an internationally-recognized day for positive environmental action, each year on June 5. This year's theme is "Forests: Nature at Your Service," which highlights the life-sustaining values that forests provide and the link between quality of life and the health of forests. [Read More...](#)

Greening Your Campus and Curriculum – June 6-7

This year's Symposium on Sustainable Environmental Practices at Colleges and Universities in the Southeast: "Greening Your Campus and Curriculum" will be held Monday-Tuesday, June 6-7 at Spelman College in Atlanta. The conference will include information regarding the integration of green practices into college campus and curricula. [Read more...](#)

Broadway/West End Corridor Study Input Opportunities – June 7-9

The Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) will hold community conversations and information

Nashville juniors place third in national sustainability challenge

Two members of the School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt (SSMV), Catherine Caffey and Emily Alsentzer, finished third out of 24 finalists in the Siemens We Can

Change The World Challenge, a national sustainability contest. They will each receive a \$5,000 scholarship and SSMV will receive a \$500 grant.



Alsentzer and Caffey, students at Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet High School and Martin Luther King Academic Magnet High School, respectively, are both enrolled at SSMV, a program offered to Metro Nashville Public School students that centers on an interdisciplinary science curriculum.

For their project entry, Caffey and Alsentzer introduced an energy conservation component to the competition among the first-year residential Commons houses at Vanderbilt University to examine whether a non-monetary reward (winning the "Commons Cup") would be effective in changing student behavior affecting the environment. Through the competition, the freshman student body saved Vanderbilt approximately \$10,000 in five months by reducing their energy usage by 3.5 percent compared to the previous year, thus validating the use of a non-monetary award. Read the [full article](#) for more details!

Nashville area MPO needs your thoughts on Bicycling in Middle TN



The [Nashville Area MPO](#) invites you to participate in a survey of area cyclists being conducted by the [Nashville Bicycle & Pedestrian](#)

[Advisory Committee](#) (BPAC). Nashville's BPAC is an advisory committee for the Metropolitan Government established by Mayor Karl Dean to promote and encourage safe bicycling and walking. The results of this survey will be used to help design better bicycling facilities (bike lanes, greenways) and improve bike/automobile "share the road" public safety information programs. [Take the survey.](#)

stations June 7-9 at several times and locations to gain feedback from the public regarding ideas for improving the city's transit investments along the Broadway/West End Corridor. Specific items to be discussed include potential routes along the corridor as well as the modes being considered: modern streetcar, light rail and bus rapid transit. [Read more...](#)

“How Cuba Survived Peak Oil” – June 7

Good Food for Good People presents the film “How Cuba Survived Peak Oil,” a documentary illustrating how Cubans transitioned from a highly mechanized, industrial agricultural system to one using organic methods of farming and local, urban gardens following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1990, on Tuesday, June 7 at 6:30 pm at the Warner Park Nature Center. [Read more...](#)

“Creating a Bike-Friendly Workplace” – June 15

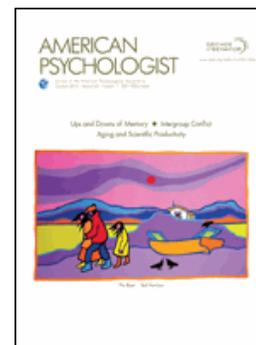
The Clean Air Partnership of Williamson County will host a Lunch and Learn program on “Creating a Bike-Friendly Workplace” on Wednesday, June 15 at 12 pm in the Community Room of the Franklin Police Headquarters. Bob Murphy and Preston Elliott of RPM Transportation Consultants will provide guidance for making it easier for individuals to bike to work. [Read more...](#)

“David vs. Monsanto” – June 21

Good Food for Good People presents

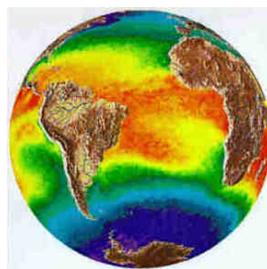
American Psychologist features special issue on psychology and global climate change

The May/June 2011 issue of *American Psychologist*, the American Psychological Association's official journal, includes several articles pertaining to the intersection of psychology and climate change, written by researchers from institutions around the



world. Specific topics discussed include: psychology's contributions to understanding and addressing global climate change; human behavioral contributions to climate change; psychological impacts of global climate change; adapting to and coping with the threat and impacts of climate change; psychological barriers that limit climate change mitigation and adaptation; contributions of psychology to limiting climate change; and public understanding of climate change in the United States. [Read the article abstracts](#) from *American Psychologist*. Full article texts are available electronically and in print via the [Jean and Alexander Heard Library](#).

What's With the Weather? Is Climate Change to Blame?



One of the most puzzling questions facing scientists today is whether climate change is leading to more heat waves, floods, and extreme weather events. By definition, extreme events happen infrequently, making them a tough candidate for trending analyses. Today's climate scientists argue that the “most extreme events need to be compared to ‘ordinary’ extreme events,” also known as an “extreme value approach.” Using this methodology, researchers have found that the number of heat waves has been increasing in recent years, and this observed escalation is likely attributable to human behavior. Moreover, studies find that temperatures worldwide should continue to climb as greenhouse gas concentrations rise, thus suggesting that severe weather events will also occur with greater frequency. Read the [full article](#) from Yale Environment 360 to learn more.

the film "David vs. Monsanto," a documentary about a farmer's battle against a multinational corporation and challenge of the right to claim ownership of a living organism on Tuesday, June 21 at 6:30 pm at the Warner Park Nature Center. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Chapter Meeting: Transit Alliance – June 24

The USGBC of Middle TN will host its monthly chapter meeting on Friday, June 24 at 7:30 am at the Adventure Science Center, featuring remarks from Ed Cole, Executive Director of the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Green Carpet Event – June 24

Join the USGBC of Middle TN for the 2011 Green Carpet Event on Friday, June 24 from 6:30-9:30 pm at the Rymer Gallery. Winners of the Green Star Awards, which acknowledge sustainable projects designed or built in Middle Tennessee, will be recognized. Tickets are \$20 per person; a cash bar will be available. [Read more...](#)



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SEMO needs your input: Green Bag Luncheon Series

VU's Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO) is planning a Green Bag Luncheon Series throughout the 2011-2012 academic year. This educational series will feature a variety of informal lunchtime lectures and/or workshops discussing a wide variety of sustainability topics. Please take a few minutes to provide input regarding what you would like to see and which lunch sessions you might attend by [taking our Green Bag Luncheon Series Interest Survey!](#) Thank you!

Take advantage of fresh foods from local farmers this growing season

Tennessee's summer growing season brings ample opportunities to enjoy fresh, locally and



sustainably grown and produced vegetables, fruits, meats, flowers, herbs, cheeses, bread and much more! The best opportunities for finding these food items, farmers' markets and community-supported agriculture (CSA) arrangements, are conveniently available in the Middle Tennessee area. Vanderbilt University hosts its own weekly farmers' markets each Thursday from 3 to 6 pm from June 2 through October 27 in the Medical Center Plaza across from Langford Auditorium and at One Hundred Oaks near the Cinema (**One Hundred Oaks market begins June 9**). Check out the [full article](#) for a list of farmers' markets and CSAs!



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.

