

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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June is Great Outdoors Month and National Rivers Month!

Get outside and celebrate the beginning of summer! Enjoy your month exploring all that the great outdoors has to offer including spending quality time on the rivers boating, fishing, and paddling. Visit the [TN State Parks website](#) for more outdoor events!

National Trails Day- June 2

Celebrate by hiking, running, strolling, roller blading, or biking your favorite trails in a local park. Or learn your trees by walking the Meadow Tree Trail or Old Roadway Tree Trail in Edwin Warner Park. [Read more...](#)

World Environment Day- June 5

June is shaping up to be hot, hot, hot with temperatures already reaching 95 degrees! You can conserve energy by closing window shades, dressing in light loose layers, and setting indoor thermostats at 75 degrees or higher. For more energy conservation tips, visit our ThinkOne website at www.vanderbilt.edu/thinkone/. As the temps rise, we will also see more Air Quality Alert days, so consider taking mass transit, carpooling, or riding a bike to do your part to keep Nashville's air pollution levels as low as possible. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Have a wonderful June!

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College Halls at Kissam Project Construction Follows LEED Practices

Come together with people from all walks of life to ensure a cleaner, greener, and brighter outlook for yourself and future generations by organizing an event. Visit the [UNEP website](#) for more information and ideas on how to participate.

Vanderbilt Farmer's Market- June 7, 14, 21, 28

Purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, honey, locally farmed meat, cheeses, and bread every Thursday on the Medical Center Plaza from 3pm to 6pm.

6th Annual International Sustainable Campus Network Conference- June 19-21

The University of Oregon is hosting the 6th Annual International Sustainable Campus Network Conference, themed "The Power of Partnerships." The event will focus on the importance of expanding sustainability initiatives beyond traditional campus boundaries to incorporate local and regional efforts. During concurrent working group sessions, participants will discuss higher education partnerships with local government, the corporate sector and nonprofits to tackle common challenges, accelerate technology transfer and promote knowledge exchange. [Read more...](#)

Volunteer Home Energy Savings Project (Youth)- June 20

Hands On Nashville and Impact



Construction of College Halls at Kissam began May 14. In order to build two state-of-the-art residential colleges, the six existing

dorms at Kissam Quadrangle must first be dismantled. The project plans to recycle as much of the old building materials as possible according to U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design practices. Bricks from each residence will also be made available as souvenirs. Other LEED efforts include sourcing building materials from the surrounding area, using sustainable materials, and making the buildings as energy efficient as possible. To learn more about this project, read the [MyVU article](#) or visit the [College Halls website](#).

Express Bus Service Between Clarksville & Nashville Begins June 1!

Attention Clarksvillians! The Regional Transportation Authority starts express bus service between Clarksville and



Nashville. Once Vanderbilt employees get downtown to Music City Central, they can use their Vanderbilt ID as their MTA Ride to Work pass to commute within the city. MTA buses travel along West End, Hillsboro Road, and to One Hundred Oaks, along with dozens of other routes. Visit the [Vanderbilt Alternative Transportation website](#) for more information and pricing.

Middle Tennessee's First Transit-Oriented Development Breaks Ground



A new type of sustainable community is coming to town! Hamilton Springs,

Middle Tennessee's first transit-oriented development, recently broke ground in Lebanon, TN. The development will create a traditional neighborhood "village" of residents and businesses with a Music City Star commuter train station at its center. The new community will feature multiple housing options, commercial and office areas, walkable suburban areas, greenways, and pocket parks, and a proposed Music City Star

Nashville are partnering to bring an exciting new Home Energy Savings Program to help improve the energy efficiency of low-income homes in our community. Volunteers will have the opportunity to do a variety of home upgrades including: attic and basement insulation installation, weather stripping doors and windows, installing low-flow shower heads and sink aerators, among others. [Read more...](#)

Nashville Green Drinks- June 20

On Wednesday, June 20 at 6 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 (1308 McGavock Pike).

Campus Climate Leadership Summit- June 21-22

The 2012 Climate Leadership Summit, hosted by American University in Washington, DC, will focus on "Economic Renewal: Jump-starting a Sustainable Economy". The Summit provides a unique opportunity to engage in a highly interactive discussion with senior leadership at peer institutions and collaborate on ways to advance sustainability efforts on campuses across the country. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Monthly Membership Meeting- June 22

commuter rail stop. For more information, visit the [Hamilton Springs website](#).

Vanderbilt Research Brightens the Future of Lighting

An accidental discovery in a Vanderbilt Chemistry lab may lead to new advances in alternative lighting technologies. When 'Quantum Dots' were discovered seven years ago, their efficiency was too low for commercial application, but through further enhancement, their fluorescent efficiency has been boosted to a level where they can be used in some special lighting applications. Researchers hope the efficiency of quantum dots can be further enhanced, making them more viable as a commercial light source in the future. Read the full story at [Vanderbilt's Research News website](#).



Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal Now in Sumner, Dickson, and Rutherford Counties



The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has introduced 13 new permanent collection bins for Tennessee residents to properly dispose of used or unwanted medication. The bins offer a safe and easy way to dispose of these medications while creating opportunities for residents to promote environmental protection and a safer community. To see a list of counties receiving collection bins and to read more, [click here](#). To hear a podcast on the importance of disposing of unwanted medications properly, listen to [this podcast](#) by Carrie Plummer MSN, from the Vanderbilt School of Nursing.

Changes to Metro Nashville Recycling Program Begin July 1

If you live in Davidson County, this story is for you! Metro Nashville Public Works will begin fees for having multiple trash carts at residences and businesses that



The U.S. Green Building Council of Middle TN will host their monthly membership meeting on Friday, June 22 from 11:30 am to 1 pm at the Adventure Science Center. Come hear Mayor Karl Dean speak. [Read more...](#)



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use brown trash carts. Residents using more than two trash carts will be charged a monthly collection and disposal fee. Public Works will provide additional recycling carts and monthly collection of recycling at no additional cost, so recycle and save! [Read more...](#)



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.

