

SustainVU

Growing Responsibly

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Living Light Solar Home Tour – March 2-30

Stop by the Living Light Solar Home Tour at Centennial Park on Fridays, Saturday, and Sundays in March beginning March 2. The state-of-the-art, solar-powered house, designed by students at the University of Tennessee, is open as an educational exhibition to teach about cutting-edge sustainable science, technology and design. [Read more...](#)

Fareless Friday – March 9

The city of Nashville will offer free bus rides on Friday, March 9 to encourage people who do not ride public transit to try it. Try it, you'll like it! The rides will last all day and are unlimited. [Read more...](#)

Living Well Marketplace –

With spring right around the corner and warmer temperatures appearing, remember to adjust your thermostat to 75 degrees F, open your shades or blinds to take advantage of natural lighting, and walk or bike to get around. We have many upcoming, exciting stories and events to share with you, including the plastics expansion of our campus recycling program, our Green Bag Lunch on sustainable landscaping and gardening, and the Living Light Solar Home Tour in Centennial Park. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Have a wonderful, sustainable March!

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March 10

Visit the Living Well Marketplace at The Factory at Franklin on Saturday, March 10 from noon to 6 pm to discover earth-friendly products for you and your home, garden, and office. The Marketplace features over 75 vendors and is a free, family-friendly event. [Read more...](#)

Tennessee Environmental Conference – March 13-14

The annual Tennessee Environmental Conference, this year emphasizing balanced decisions, policies and practices in health, environment, economics, and industry, will take place at the Meadowview Conference Resort & Convention Center in Kingsport, TN on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 13-14. [Read more...](#)

Fisk Community Health/Sustainability Forum – March 17

On Saturday, March 17 from 8:30 am to 2 pm, Fisk University will host an Environmental Health/Sustainability Forum focused on transforming communities towards becoming healthy and sustainable. The forum will feature Donele Wilkins, President and CEO of GreenDore Initiative.

[Read more...](#)

TN Organic Growers Association Conference – March 23-24

Join the TN Organic Growers Association (TOGA) on Friday, March

Vanderbilt campus expands plastic recycling

Just in time for a strong finish in [RecycleMania](#), the Vanderbilt campus recycling program is expanding plastics recycling to include all plastic containers! Previous recycling vendor restrictions only allowed for recycling plastic bottles with resin codes 1 and 2 on Vanderbilt's main academic campus and in student areas. Vanderbilt's new partnership with Waste Management Inc. now allows for the collection of all plastics, regardless of what type. Read the [full article](#) to learn more about the expansion and which plastics can and cannot be recycled.



Vanderbilt Printing Services to become FSC certified



Tom Fox, director of [Vanderbilt University Printing Services](#), has announced that his facility has begun the process of becoming [Forest Stewardship Council](#) (FSC) Chain-of-Custody certified. Upon completion of the work to implement the FSC rules and procedures within the organization, VUPS will be able to provide FSC-certified printed matter to any customer desiring their order to carry the well-known and respected certification mark. In addition to the FSC mark, customers also will be offered the option to add the Rainforest Alliance mark to their FSC-certified jobs. VUPS is working with the Printers Green Resource LLC InGreen Program to complete the work necessary and expects to be fully certified no later than mid-April. Read the [full article](#) published by Vanderbilt News and Communications for more information.

March 28 Green Bag Luncheon to focus on sustainable landscaping and gardening

The Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO) and the American Studies Sustainability Project will sponsor the seventh installment of the Green Bag Luncheon



23 and Saturday, March 24 at Lakeshore Christian in Antioch, TN for a conference of educational workshops, speakers, vendors, local food and farm tours. [Read more...](#)

USGBC Membership Meeting – March 23

The U.S. Green Building Council of Middle TN will host their monthly membership meeting on Friday, March 23 from 11:30 am – 1 pm at the Adventure Science Center, featuring representatives of the Living Light of the Solar Home. A buffet style lunch will be served (\$20 for members, \$30 for non-members); RSVP required.

[Read more...](#)

Green Tie Affair – March 24

On Saturday, March 24 from 7-11 pm attend the Tennessee Environmental Council's Green Tie Affair located at Marathon Music Works. The event features a live and silent auction, local and organic appetizers, and presentation of the 2012 Sustainability Award. [Read more...](#)

Sustainable Business Summit – March 27-28

The 5th anniversary of the Sustainable Business Summit will take place at Lipscomb University on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 27-28. The summit features keynote speaker Janine Benyus, Co-Founder of the Biomimicry Institute and Biomimicry Guild. [Read more...](#)

Series on **Wednesday, March 28 from noon to 1 pm in Sarratt 189**. Join Julie Berbiglia of Metro Water Services for an up-close look at rain barrels, stormwater management, and pollution prevention as it relates to irrigation and Mark Kerske of Gardens of Babylon for an overview of techniques and tips for sustainably and holistically planting and managing your yard, plants, and garden. So bring your lunch and join us to learn about greening your landscaping and gardening this spring! Read the [full announcement](#) for more information.

Nashville rolls out green roof on new convention center



Downtown Nashville's new convention center will feature a four-acre green roof, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of March. The green roof, which is being installed by Landscape Support Services of Murfreesboro, is being put in place to avoid urban storm-water runoff and as an added benefit may provide some insulation to the convention center.

In Nashville, when heavy storms hit, the combined storm water and sewer systems can overflow causing raw sewage to wash into creeks and the Cumberland River. Green roofs are a beneficial and effective option to solve this problem. Read the [full article](#) published by *The Tennessean* for more information.

ACC Clean Energy Challenge encourages students to develop business plans for new clean energy companies

The \$100K ACC Clean Energy Challenge, supported by the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), invites students to submit business plans with commercialization potential in the clean energy space, including projects related to renewable energy, energy efficiency improvements and advanced fuels/vehicles.



The competition is open to graduate and undergraduate students currently enrolled in accredited colleges or universities in Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi,

Speaker: David Bollier – March 29

The American Studies Sustainability Project will host David Bollier, an American activist, writer, and policy strategist for his talk entitled, “The Commons as a Counterpoint to the Market/State Duopoly.” The event will take place on Thursday, March 29 at 4:10 pm in the Black Cultural Center Auditorium. [Read more...](#)

Film Screening: *Forks over Knives* – March 31

On Saturday, March 31 at 1pm Vanderbilt Initiative for Vegetarian Awareness (VIVA) will host a screening of the movie *Forks over Knives* in Sarratt Cinema. A discussion panel featuring Joan Forry will follow. [Read more...](#)



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North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia. To enter the Qualifying Round, submit an executive summary and video pitch by March 23, 2012. The ACC Regional Finals will be held at the University of Maryland on April 25, 2012.

The winner of the competition will receive a \$100,000 prize and compete in the [DOE National Clean Energy Business Plan Competition](#) finals in Washington, D.C., in summer 2012. Visit the [ACC Clean Energy Challenge page](#) for more information.

Caldwell & Gregory's 3rd Annual "Being Green...Getting Clean" poster contest accepting student entries



Students: Encourage sustainable living by designing a poster showing ways to be “green” while doing laundry! Winning entries will be reproduced and posted in select laundry rooms in residence halls on campus and eligible to receive a VISA Giftcard. Entries are due by midnight (CST) on April 16, 2012. View the [full announcement](#) for contest rules and additional information.



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.

