

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser instead.](#)



### **Vanderbilt Farmers' Market – October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

This is the last month for the Vanderbilt Farmers' Market. The Market will be held every Thursday from 3:00-6:00pm through October 29th. The market has relocated to the curved section of Medical Center Drive adjacent to Vanderbilt Stallworth Rehabilitation Hospital, between Children's Way and Blakemore Avenue, steps away from the intersection of Blakemore Avenue and 21st Avenue South. More details [here](#).

### **Walk/Bike University Class: City Cycling 101 – October 1**

Learn how to ride your bike safely and confidently with this classroom-style

October is Energy Awareness Month and Campus Sustainability Month, so it is like Christmas morning around our office! SEMO can't wait to celebrate at all the many events coming up this month! Join us for the Commons Unplugged Green Forum, and stop by to say hello at our booths at the Know Tomorrow event, Green Fair, and Wellness Bash. Don't forget to anchor down and tackle recycling at all home football games. Go 'Dores! We are also calling all campus departments, organizations, groups, and classes to apply for the Athletics Football Sustainability Competition...you can win a fabulous catered tailgate, 20 tickets and an on-field award ceremony if you let us know the exciting and innovative ways you and your class or group help make Vandy more sustainable! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. Have a sustainable October and slay some "energy vampires" this Halloween!

Andrea George, Director  
Sustainability and Environmental Management Office  
Vanderbilt University (615) 322-4551 | [e-mail](#) | [Web site](#)

workshop. Topics include an overview of the parts of a bike, rules of the road, how to avoid crashes, and basic maintenance. Read more [here](#).

---

### 9th Annual Greenways Dinner on the Bridge – October 1

Enjoy dinner on the Historic Shelby Street Bridge to benefit Greenways of Nashville, a non-profit member organization raising awareness and private support for Nashville's greenways initiative. Greenways of Nashville works in partnership with the Metro Parks Department's Greenways Commission. Click [here](#) for tickets.

---

### Know Tomorrow – October 2

Know Tomorrow is a nationwide, student-led campaign to spread awareness about the impacts of climate change and encourage positive action. SPEAR will be hosting a local Know Tomorrow event on October 2 from 3-5pm on Currey Field in conjunction with over 70 universities from across the country to generate support for sustainable action on Vanderbilt's campus. More details [here](#).

---

### The Great Tennessee River Rescue – October 3

Join [Tennessee Environmental Council](#), [Cumberland River Compact](#), and [Tennessee River Rescue](#) on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Great Tennessee River Rescue! Help clean up TN's rivers, streams, lakes, and



## Vanderbilt Campus Dining & Coca-Cola Bring ORCA Digester to Campus

The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) estimates that food waste makes up 15%, or 38 million tons, of the overall trash disposed of



annually nationwide in landfills. The Organic Refuse Conversion Alternative (ORCA) machine will significantly lessen the amount of food waste sent to the landfill. The ORCA offers a method to digest food waste on-campus and convert it to nutrient rich water within a twenty-four hour period. [Campus Dining](#) along with funds provided by the [Coca-Cola Consolidated](#) have installed an ORCA machine at Rand Dining Center.

"The ORCA has already improved the efficiency and effectiveness of our kitchen, eliminating the need to store food waste. We want to do our part in reducing the carbon footprint," said Campus Dining Director, Camp Howard. Coca-Cola is a proud partner of Vanderbilt University and Campus Dining, "we're excited to support a variety of sustainability projects including bringing the ORCA food digester to campus," said Coca-Cola senior director of corporate affairs, Alison Patient.

Read the full story [here](#).

## October is Campus Sustainability Month and Energy Awareness Month



Held every October, [Campus Sustainability Month](#) is an international celebration of sustainability in higher education. The goal of Campus Sustainability Month is to raise the visibility of

sustainability on campus and to engage and inspire students and other campus stakeholders to become sustainability change agents.

neighborhoods by registering for the event. More details [here](#).

---

### **Environmental and Sustainability Studies Talk: Nathaniel Rich – October 6**

Head out to the Warren Humanities Center at 4pm on October 6th to hear Nathaniel Rich, author of the climate science fiction novel *Odds Against Tomorrow* speak about his work and the emerging genre of “cli-fi.” More details [here](#).

---

### **Engage Green: Recycle, Y’all! - October 7**

Did you know that 75% of waste in the United States can be recycled, but we only recycle 30% of it? Let’s fix this problem, Nashville! This month, join [Team Green Adventures](#) and [Urban Green Lab](#) to learn everything you want to know about Nashville’s recycling process! More details [here](#).

---

### **Life Phase Series: ‘Composting and Need to Know for Successful Gardening – October 8**

The [VRWC](#) presents the next installment in its Life Phase Series on Thursday, Oct. 8. from 12-1pm at the VRWC. Guest speaker Ryan Cooper, an irrigation specialist for Vanderbilt University’s grounds department, will present composting techniques as well as ways to ready your garden for successful spring crops. Feel free to bring your lunch! More details [here](#).

Energy Awareness Month, also held in October, is a national effort to emphasize how central energy is to our national prosperity, security, and environmental well-being. Energy Awareness Month raises awareness of the importance of sustainably managing the nations’ energy resources. Think about how you can [reduce](#) your energy consumption this month as the temperatures dip and don’t forget about the [energy vampires](#) that might be lurking in your home or office!

In celebration of Campus Sustainability Month and Energy Awareness Month, SEMO will release the 2014 Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory report, which illustrates Vanderbilt’s current carbon footprint and allows the University to quantify the impact of its many sustainability initiatives. Be on the lookout for the report at the end of the month!

### **Second Annual Commons Unplugged Week for First Year Students**

The second annual Commons Unplugged environmental awareness week, from Sunday, October 25 to Saturday, October 31, 2015 will celebrate sustainability, natural resource conservation and energy



conservation through various events focusing on Vanderbilt’s first-year student population. These events are presented by [The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons](#), in partnership with the [Sustainability and Environmental Management Office](#) and the [School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt](#).

Throughout the week, first-year students will compete in a residence house energy conservation contest to earn points in the year-long campus competition called the Commons Cup. The week will include two events open to the Vanderbilt Community: the Green Fair and the Green Forum. The Green Fair will be held on Wednesday, October 28th in the Commons Center atrium from 5:30-7:30pm and will feature an organization fair focused on sustainability on campus and around Nashville. The Green Forum will be held on Thursday, October 29th from 5:00-6:00pm in the Commons Center multipurpose room and will feature Dr. Teresa Goddu of

## Brewin ' with the Lab – October 11

Join Urban Green Lab to celebrate fall, good beer, and sustainability at Brewin' with the Lab!

The weather won't be all that refreshes you as you sip a beer from of a Blackstone Brewery pint glass, both of which are complimentary from Blackstone with your event ticket.

Explore the brewery's garden, apiary, and brewing facilities and take a chance on a host of enticing raffle items. More details [here](#).

## Rick and Yoko Curme Talk – October 20

On October 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, come out to Garland Hall 209 and listen to a talk given by Rick and Yoko Curme titled, "Green Social Services Buildings, Community Support, and Client Self-Image in Japan." More details [here](#).

## Nutrition Workshop: Vegetarian & Vegan Cooking - October 21

Join Nashville [Team Green Adventures](#) for another installment of their Nutrition Workshop Series, in partnership with the [Nashville Farmers' Market!](#) Learn that you don't have to sacrifice flavor and heartiness when making an all-vegetarian meal and learn the benefits of making at least one meal a week meat-free! More details [here](#).

## Vanderbilt Football Home Game – October 24



Vanderbilt's English department discussing the importance of climate fiction. More information is available on the [SustainVU website](#).

## Are You the Greenest Group on Campus?

All Vanderbilt departments, organizations, groups, and classes are invited to compete to be the "Greenest Group on Campus"! [VU Athletics](#), the Vanderbilt Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)) and [Waste Management, Inc.](#) are looking for applicants for this year's Football Athletics Sustainability competition. Your group could win a catered VIP tailgate event for 20 people, 20 tickets to the game, an autographed item from Vanderbilt athletics, and on-field recognition at the Vanderbilt vs. University of Kentucky football game on November 14, 2015! To qualify, just tell us about the sustainable actions your VU department, organization, group, or class are doing in order to make Vanderbilt a greener campus.

You can fill out the application [online](#) at or email the [pdf application](#) to [sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu) or fax it to 615.343.4951.

## Cardboard Recycling at Move-In Sets Another Record

Cardboard recycling results from Move-In 2015 make it another record year with 38.7 tons of cardboard recycled! This is a 4% increase over last year and a 476% increase since 2007! The more than 77,000 pounds collected this year average to more than 11 pounds for each of the undergraduate students at Vanderbilt.



Don't forget to anchor down and tackle recycling when you attend home Vanderbilt Football games this year! [Vanderbilt Athletics](#) and [Waste Management, Inc.](#), with the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)) and [Plant Operations](#) will collect recycling from the stadium and surrounding areas. Recycling bins will be located throughout the tailgating areas, right outside the stadium as you enter for the game, and inside the stadium for your convenience.

---

### National Food Day – October 24

National Food Day inspires Americans to change their diets and our food policies. Every October 24, thousands of events all around the country bring Americans together to celebrate and enjoy real food. Join the [Nashville Farmers' Market](#) and [Community Food Advocates](#) for their fifth annual National Food Day event! More details [here](#).

---

### Nashville Water Service Talk – October 27

On October 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, Scott Potter and Ron Taylor with Nashville Water Services will talk about water delivery, water conservation, and green jobs in Nashville. This event will be held in Garland 209, more details [here](#).

---

### Wellness Bash – October 29

The [Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center](#) will host the

The collaborative effort of Cardboard Crew volunteers, Student Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility ([SPEAR](#)), [Plant Operations](#) Grounds Department, and Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)) comes together each year to demonstrate a commitment to environmentally responsible practices and to help make Vanderbilt a more sustainable campus.

### Nashville MTA/RTA Transit Improvement Strategies Released



[Nashville MTA/RTA](#) has released more transit improvement strategies, and they need your input! New topics include: [commuter rail](#), [first and last mile connections](#), [rapid bus](#), [stop consolidation](#), and [transit-oriented developments](#).

Since the beginning of outreach for the [nMotion](#) strategic plan, Nashville MTA/RTA has received more than 6,000 responses on how Middle Tennesseans want to improve the regional transit system. Nashville MTA/RTA has a [discussion forum](#) on various topics where you can share your input.

### Find a Local Hazardous Household Waste Disposal Drop-Off Event

Do you have unwanted household products that are flammable, corrosive, or toxic? You can



safely dispose of these products free of charge at an upcoming Household Hazardous Waste collection event. Sever drop-off events will be held this fall throughout the state, courtesy of the [Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation](#). See the full schedule of events [here](#), and see a list of acceptable items [here](#).

### Follow us on our social media accounts!

We have added more accounts to our social media arsenal! Here are more ways you can connect with us online:

[Facebook @SustainVU](#)  
[Instagram @SustainVUVanderbilt](#)

Wellness Bash from 4-7pm on October 29<sup>th</sup>. In addition to booths and tables representing various Vanderbilt departments and organizations, the event will feature a live band, a DJ, interactive healthy cooking demonstrations, a photo booth, massage stations, games and more. Make sure you stop by and say hello at the SEMO table! More details [here](#).



join SustainVU  
on facebook



[Twitter @SustainVU](#)

[Google+ @Vanderbilt SustainVU](#)



For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit the SustainVU website at [www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/sustainvu) or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at [sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu) or (615) 322-2057.

