

Renfro, Tiffany M

From: George, Andrea K
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To: Renfro, Tiffany M
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Growing Responsibly

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Shade Tree Trot – April 9

Get some exercise while supporting a worthy cause at the Shade Tree Trot 5K charity race on Saturday, April 9 at 9 am. The Shade Tree Trot raises money to provide financial support for the Shade Tree Clinic, a free health clinic run by Vanderbilt medical students, operating expenses and aims to raise awareness of the clinic's mission throughout the community.

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Growing Healthy Communities Gardening Event – April 9

Join the Glenclyff High School Garden Project, Glenclyff High School, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital, and Community Food Advocates on Saturday, April 9 from 10 am – 3 pm for "Growing Healthy Communities": A School & Community Gardening

Happy Earth Day to you, happy Earth Day to you! Earth Day is coming up soon, and there are lots of fun events planned at Vandy and in Nashville, so be sure to check at least one of them out! As spring continues to unfold on campus and you consider doing some spring cleaning, remember to visit [Vandy FreeSwap](#), the new VU-community website for giving away and getting free, usable, unwanted items instead of disposing them in landfills. We'd like to share with you several green events and sustainability opportunities coming up this month – more information can always be found on both the [SustainVU website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Have a lovely April!

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Save the Earth, save the air, save \$\$\$ commuting: Find out how at the Clean Air Fair April 21

Come celebrate Earth Day with games, prizes and giveaways on Thursday, April 21, from 11



Event, a free opportunity to learn about the basics, the production, and the benefits of school and community gardens! [Read More...](#)

Williamson County Shred Day – April 16

On Saturday, April 16 from 8 am to 2 pm Williamson County will host a free Shred Day for the environmentally-friendly recycling of confidential documents at 420 Century Court in the city of Franklin. Personal items such as investment statements, canceled checks, pay check stubs, credit card statements, insurance documents, and IRS forms from Williamson County residents only will be accepted. [Read More...](#)

Food Matters Screening and Panel Discussion – April 19

Join Vanderbilt Initiative for Vegetarian Awareness (VIVA) on Tuesday, April 19 at 7 pm in Sarratt Cinema for a free screening of Food Matters, a film that discusses raw food and healthy eating. The film will be followed by a discussion panel of experts and reception. [Read More...](#)

2011 Green Business Summit – April 21-22

The 2011 Green Business Summit, “Innovations in Sustainability,” aims to provide insights for success and growth in “green” business environments through dynamic workshops, keynote speakers, and exhibitors. This two-day event will take place at the Nashville Convention

am to 2 pm in Medical Center Plaza Across from Langford Auditorium at the first-ever Vanderbilt Clean Air Fair. This fair is a unique forum for employees and students to learn about alternative transportation and commuter choice programs and products such as the Free Ride to Work Program, regional/inter-city bus service, vanpools, Music City Star Commuter Rail, Zipcars, and more. The Clean Air Fair is also a great way to participate in Transit Week in Nashville, which takes place April 17-23. Visit

<http://transitownashville.org/events/> for additional information. Earth Day, recognized annually on April 22, aims to highlight the importance of and appreciation for the Earth and natural environments. [Read the full article.](#)

VUMC taking steps, both big and small, to cut energy use



VUMC Plant Services is using innovative technologies and strategies to reduce electricity, steam and water costs and improve VU's environmental impact. These include higher-efficiency bulbs, occupancy sensors, dedicated operating room heating, condensation recycling, efficiency testing, and LEED certification. Read the [full article](#) published by the VUMC Office of News and Public Affairs.

Recycle and Win program comes to Nashville

Starting in April, Recycle and Win, a Coca-Cola-designed program to promote municipal recycling programs, will come to Metro Nashville. \$15,000 in Kroger gift cards will be offered as incentives for residents to increase recycling. Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated, Kroger, Metro Public Works, and the Metro Beautification and Environment Commission have teamed up to award Nashville residents a \$50 Kroger gift card if they are “caught” recycling the right way. Single-family households in Metro’s Urban Services District (USD) will receive an educational mailer highlighting which materials should go in their recycling bins and a “Give it Back” sticker, which residents must place on their bin for a chance to win a \$50 Kroger gift card. Recycle and Win will help educate new residents and remind the current Metro Nashville recyclers how to recycle properly. Non-USD residents will also have a chance to participate in the contest. Forty more \$50 Kroger Gift Cards will be awarded at Recycle and Win events planned on



Center and features L. Hunter Lovins of Natural Capitalism Solutions and Don Moseley, Director of Sustainable Facilities for Wal-Mart, as keynote speakers. [Read more...](#)

Living Well Sustainable Marketplace – April 22-23

The Living Well Sustainable Marketplace at the Nashville Convention Center, open from 10 am to 7 pm on Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23, will showcase earth-friendly products for homes, body, gardens, work, eco chic fashion, increased energy efficiency, and sustainable outdoor living. [Read more...](#)

Nashville Earth Day Festival – April 23

The 10th annual Nashville Earth Day Festival will be held on Saturday, April 23, from 11 am to 7 pm at Centennial Park. The event, free and open to the public, will feature exhibits and activities hosted by community groups, environmental organizations, and government agencies aimed at educating Middle Tennesseans about protecting the environment. While you're there, enjoy live entertainment, food vendors, a scavenger hunt, the outdoor adventure area, and more! [Read more...](#)

National Medication Take-Back Day – April 30

The Federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), in conjunction with state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United

Saturdays at Metro's Community Recycle Drop-off centers. Read the [full press release](#).

Area residents turning to public transportation as gasoline prices soar



As gasoline prices increase across the country, Nashville residents are turning to

public transportation as their primary means of getting around. This past February, ridership on the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority's (MTA) bus routes increased 6.5 percent compared to February 2010. The Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) services also have seen significant ridership increases. Ridership on the Music City Star commuter train and regional bus routes in January 2011 increased 19 percent and 23 percent, respectively, compared to January 2010 levels. On February 9, 2011, the Star also broke a single-day ridership record with 1,339 passenger trips taken. Read the [full press release](#) published by MTA and RTA.

Get to know VU's Sustainability Director, Andrea George

Andrea George, Ph.D., joined Vanderbilt's staff as Assistant Director in the Environmental Health and Safety department in 1997 and served as the university's hazardous waste and chemical safety manager until 2007, when she was named the first Director of the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office (SEMO). As SEMO's Director, Dr. George is responsible for development, management, and coordination of sustainability and environmental compliance programs across the academic campus and medical center, and also plays a central role in strategic planning efforts to promote the long-term sustainability of the university. Prior to coming to Vanderbilt, Dr. George managed radioactive and chemical waste remediation projects for Oak Ridge National Laboratory and throughout the U.S. for Bechtel National, Inc. She was awarded Bachelor of Science degrees from Western Kentucky University in physics and mathematics and then earned her Master of Science degree in environmental engineering from Vanderbilt. Dr. George graduated from Vanderbilt for the second time in 2007 with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Environmental Engineering and is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM). In her free time, you can find Dr. George spending



States, is hosting its 2nd National Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 30. The purpose of the event is to provide a venue for the disposal of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. Several drop-off locations will be available in the Middle Tennessee.

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time with her husband and two daughters, playing with her many dogs and cats, or reading on her Kindle.



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.