

We hope everyone's fall semester is going well!

The ThinkOne Energy Conservation educational initiative is now underway for main campus! Many of you may have already received information in September about how to save energy while cooling our spaces. You should be receiving more info on lighting this week, and additional information will be disseminated throughout the fall about computer usage, equipment, and other great energy-saving ideas. Our goal is to reduce energy consumption by Vanderbilt University by 15% or more, so Think of One thing you can do each day to help our community achieve that goal! For more ways to save energy on campus, information on the ThinkOne research project, or interesting FAQs and facts about energy production and consumption at Vanderbilt, check out our newly-launched website www.vanderbilt.edu/SustainVU/ThinkOne.

Congratulations to the VU staff members who won prizes at our tent during the Employee Celebration Wrap Party! Sheranda Lee and Maria Shariati won Smart Strip energy-saving power strips while Rey Redha and Roger Adamson won Kill-A-Watt energy usage monitors! Ten additional staff won rechargeable battery testers. 700 Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs were also given away free to all staff that came to our tent, courtesy of Plant Operations!

Never hesitate to let us know if you have something on your mind at sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu - we would especially love to hear any feedback you might have on the new ThinkOne site, www.vanderbilt.edu/SustainVU/ThinkOne. Check out the message from Cliff Joyner below concerning availability of the discounted Music City Star tickets as well as a Sustainable Lifestyles lecture on Wednesday and an Eco-Friendly Travel discussion hosted by Health Plus on Thursday.

Thanks!
Andrea

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A message from Cliff Joyner:

I am pleased to announce that Music City Star tickets are now available for purchase at the Office of Traffic & Parking (Wesley Place). University faculty and staff may buy individual trip tickets or 10-trip tickets at a 60% discount. Rail stops include Lebanon, Martha, Mount Juliet, Hermitage and Donelson. Schedules and other information are available at: www.rta-ride.org or by calling the Traffic & Parking Office at 322-2554.

We are continuing to work with the Regional Transportation Authority to bring an automated ticket machine to Traffic & Parking and to allow all University Central employees to purchase tickets at the VUMC locations. In the meantime, faculty and staff can stop by the Traffic & Parking Office, located on the first floor of the Wesley Place Garage, and purchase tickets at the reduced rate.

If you are interested in taking advantage of public transportation, MTA wants your opinion! Vanderbilt is in the process of negotiating with MTA for new routes right now. If there is a route that you would like to see put in place please get on MTA's web site at www.nashvillemta.org and go to customer comments and let MTA know what you would like.

Sustainable Lifestyles

Wednesday: October 15, 7:00 to 9:00pm

Multipurpose Room 235 in the Commons Center

We hear much these days about the need to minimize our ecological footprint but less about how to do it. One vision of living sustainably is provided by Radically Simple (2006; 35 minutes), a glimpse into the life of Jim Merkel, the first sustainability director at Dartmouth College. This short film shows Merkel practicing permaculture, using a solar cooker, canning homegrown tomatoes, and talking with people about how to calculate their footprint and reduce their consumption. Following the film will be discussion of Merkel's lifestyle and other ways of living sustainably.

Panelists: Mary Agee teaches at University School of Nashville, where she has engaged students in creating photo book projects based on preserving urban green spaces and the impact plastics have on our environment and our health. Wilson

Hubbell has a degree in mechanical engineering and teaches science and environmental topics at University School of Nashville. John Morrell, a PhD candidate in the English Department, studies Literature and the Environment and is writing a dissertation on representations of climate change in fiction and film.

Health Plus presents the Life Phase Series: Eco-friendly Travel

Thursday, October 16, 2008

Light Hall, room 411

Noon-1 pm

Join Team Green, Middle Tennessee's Adventure Club in a discussion of options for travel that support a socially conscious lifestyle. Learn tips for reducing your carbon footprint, which cities are greenest, green transportation options and upcoming Team Green trips.

Visit the Health Plus website at www.healthplus.vanderbilt.edu
Health Plus is part of Health and Wellness Services.