

SustainVU
Growing Responsibly

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Vanderbilt Sustainability Tour – June 1

Join [Team Green Adventures](#) to take a tour of several campus buildings, and campus sustainability officials and campus architects will be on-hand to lead the tour and answer any questions you might have about Vanderbilt's sustainability initiatives! RSVP and Read more [here](#).

Vanderbilt Farmers Market – June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

The Vanderbilt Farmers' Market returns Thursday, June 2, and will be held every Thursday from 2-5 p.m. through Oct. 27. After a one-year temporary move to a site on Medical Center Drive due to construction, the market returns to its traditional home

Summer is here, and the days are getting much warmer, so keep an eye out for Air Quality Alert days as the temperature rises. We had our first one last week! If you missed it, be sure to sign up for air quality alerts and learn how to lessen your impact on these days. Summer also means the return of the Vanderbilt Farmers' Market on June 2nd and other farmers' markets around the city, so go out and get your veggie fix! Vanderbilt's Commencement got even greener this year with the addition of cap and gown recycling for our undergraduate students. And once again, animals at the Nashville Zoo and Walden's Puddle got to enjoy donated strawberries from the strawberries and champagne celebration – see the [pictures](#) and a [video](#) here! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page. Have a sustainable June and wonderful start to your summer!

Andrea George, Director
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on the Medical Center plaza. Read more [here](#).

Nature Readers Book Club – June 4

Are you yearning to join a book group of passionate naturalists? Whether you are an expert in the field or newly curious about nature, join in for an inspiring and enlightening conversations about the chosen book. Bring an environmentally-based or natural history book to share. A book will be chosen for future months. More details [here](#).

National Trails Day – June 4

[National Trails Day](#) is an opportunity to celebrate all of the great trails across America, and there are many locally hosted events to enjoy this vast National Trails System. There will be free hikes at many of the TN State Parks on June 4th: an aviary hike and tour at [Radnor Lake](#), a Sellars Farm work hike at [Long Hunter State Park](#), and a 5 mile race and Barrel Festival celebration at [Coopertown City Hall](#). Many of the activities are free and family friendly! Check out the many trail-related events near Nashville [here](#).

World Environment Day – June 5

World Environment Day ([WED](#)) is the United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment. Since it began in 1974, it has grown to become a global



Vanderbilt awarded 2016 TDEC Sustainable Transportation Award



Vanderbilt University is recipient of the [2016 Sustainable Transportation Award](#), presented jointly by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ([TDEC](#)) and the Tennessee Department of Transportation ([TDOT](#)).

Vanderbilt's [Alternative Transportation](#) program, a collaboration of [Vanderbilt University Parking Services](#), [VUMC Parking and Transportation Services](#), and the [Sustainability and Environmental Management Office \(SEMO\)](#), was awarded the top prize at the Sustainable Transportation Forum at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga on May 13. The award was presented by Bob Martineau, TDEC commissioner; Shari Meghreblian, TDEC deputy commissioner; and Toks Omishakin, TDOT deputy commissioner. Andrea George, SEMO director, accepted the award on behalf of Vanderbilt University.

Vanderbilt University's robust alternative transportation program is a multipronged approach intended to reach as many of the Vanderbilt community as possible and attempts to make using alternative transportation easy and accessible. Information about each of these programs can be found on the [SustainVU Alternative Transportation page](#).

Highlights of the Alternative Transportation program include: Vanderbilt's "[Ride to Work](#)" program, which fully subsidizes (100 percent discount) the cost for all Vanderbilt employees and graduate, professional and medical students to ride MTA buses to and from work each day; Music City Star's [Commuter Rail benefit](#), which provides up to a 60 percent discount for employees who wish to ride the Music City Star commuter train; Vanderbilt's various [car sharing](#) programs and [ridematch](#) program; and a variety of [biking resources](#) across campus. Read [more](#).

platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated in over 100 countries. By celebrating WED, we remind ourselves and others of the importance of caring for our environment. Remember that every action counts, so join the action: every year, everywhere, everyone! Read more [here](#).

CityThink: A Smarter Approach to Parking Mobility and Land Use – June 7

Join the [Nashville Civic Design Center](#) in learning about a new approach for parking and land use in the Nashville area. This event will be led by Senior Policy Analyst Peter Westerholm, who recently drafted a study on parking policies in the Nashville area. Attendees are welcome to bring a lunch and enjoy it while they learn about Nashville land use policies. The meeting will be held at the Nashville Downtown Partnership from 11:45am-12:45pm. Read more [here](#).

World Oceans Day – June 8

This year's [World Oceans Day](#) theme is "Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet" and encourages participants to focus on protecting the ocean, especially in relation to the health of communities and places nearby. Read more [here](#).

ReCycle for Kids Bike Refurbishment – June 9

Learn how to repair your bike while helping out local kids! Riding a bike is a great kid-friendly way to have fun,

Thanks to Vanderbilt, some hungry animals have a lucky Friday the 13th

Animals at the Nashville Zoo and Walden's Puddle recently enjoyed taking part in a bit of Vanderbilt tradition, thanks to the [Office of the Chancellor](#) and the [Commencement Office](#).



The university donated strawberries left over from the Strawberries and Champagne celebration during Commencement to the two Nashville organizations for the third year in a row. Because fresh produce cannot be re-served or repackaged, the donation prevented the uneaten food from being sent to a landfill. Staff from Vanderbilt's [Sustainability and Environmental Management Office](#) organized the donation and delivery when Commencement events concluded on Friday, May 13.

The [Nashville Zoo](#) shared the strawberries with their ring-tailed lemurs, red ruffed lemurs, siamang gibbons, sulcata tortoise, giant anteater, rhino hornbill and white-cheeked gibbon.

The strawberries also were enjoyed by native species at [Walden's Puddle](#), a wildlife rehabilitation and education facility that provides care and treatment to sick, injured and orphaned wildlife native to Tennessee.

See a video of the animals at the Nashville Zoo enjoying the strawberries [here](#) and more photos [here](#). Read more [here](#).

Hawkins Baseball Field outfitted with energy-saving LED lights



[Hawkins Field](#), home of Vanderbilt's national championship baseball team, recently received a makeover for the 2016 baseball season, replacing all existing High-Intensity

Discharge (HID) fixtures on the field with fewer Light-Emitting Diode (LED) fixtures. 152 HID fixtures were replaced with 98 LED fixtures, improving light quality on the field but reducing the energy used by 60%.

exercise and safely travel to and from valuable resources, like schools, libraries and community centers.

[Hands On Nashville's ReCYCLE for Kids](#) engages community volunteers in providing refurbished bikes, new helmets, and basic safety education for underserved children. Sign up to volunteer to refurbish and read more [here](#).

Nutrition Workshop: Cook the CSA Box – June 15

Are you confused about what some of the produce is in your CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) box? Are you tossing out veggies that you don't know what to do with? The confusion stops now! Join Amber Robertson, Integrative Nutrition Health Coach, for an explanation of what these veggies are and most importantly, how to utilize all the veggies in your CSA box to make delicious meals and snacks. The workshop will be held at the Nashville Farmers' Market at 6:00pm. Read more [here](#).

Trees of Summer at Beaman Park – June 17

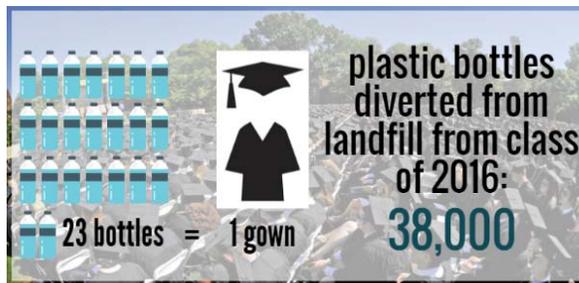
Summer leaves tell us much about who a tree is. Learn about tree ID and the diversity of Beaman park on this hike along the ridge and creek. All ages are welcome on this hike. More details [here](#).

Nashville Bike Party Ride – June 17

Nashville Bike Party is literally ready to ROCK and ROLL (on two wheels)

LED fixtures have the advantages of lower energy use, longer lifespan requiring less maintenance, and no warm-up time needed to turn on. Even though there are fewer fixtures using less energy, the specific fixtures used at Hawkins Field were specially-designed to meet high-definition television (HDTV) and ESPN broadcasting specifications and allows Vanderbilt to still meet NCAA standards for light levels for televised and non-televised games. Read [more](#).

Commencement Regalia Recycled



For the first time, graduating Vanderbilt undergraduate students could recycle their regalia after the commencement ceremony! [Oak Hall Cap and Gown](#) provided Vanderbilt graduates with gowns that were made from 100% post-consumer plastic bottles. After the ceremony, the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office ([SEMO](#)), collected caps and gowns to be recycled into new product once again!

It takes an average of 23 plastic bottles to make each gown, which means the class of 2016 wore robes made of 38,000 plastic bottles that were diverted from landfills! Read [more](#).

Sign up for Air Quality Alerts



Summer is here and that means it is air alert season! The best way to stay informed is to [sign up](#) for air alerts.

An air alert, or "[Air Quality Action Day](#)," is issued when the Air Quality Index (AQI) gets into the unhealthy range. When the AQI is forecast to be

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, or Code Orange, groups that are sensitive to the pollutant should reduce exposure by reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. For ozone this includes: children and adults who are active outside, people with lung diseases such as asthma, and elderly. On air quality alert days, think about steps like carpooling, taking the bus,

each month! These slow rides start at Parthenon Field in Centennial Park and venture through a different part of town, stopping along the way at landmarks and restaurants or breweries. Join the ride to have a good time, ride your bike, and show the Nashville Community how fun it is to be a cyclist. More details [here](#).



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combining errands, and avoiding yard work that uses gas-powered tools to lessen your impact!

Read more about air quality alerts and how you can make a difference [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](#)
- [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 or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at sustainvu@vanderbilt.edu or (615) 322-2057.

