Happy Halloween, and don’t forget to capture all of the energy vampires in your dorm, home, and office to save some energy! After you have had your fill of candy, ghosts, and ghouls, come celebrate the Greenest Group on Campus with us at this weekend’s football game – thanks to all who applied this season! Vanderbilt Green Fund applications are now open so be sure to let us know your innovative ideas on how to make campus more sustainable or to save energy. I cannot believe it is almost the holiday season! Make sure to check out our Holiday Greening Guide for tips to make your holidays more sustainable. Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the SustainVU website and Facebook page. Have a spooky and safe Halloween, a sustainable November, and a tasty Thanksgiving!

Andrea George, Director

Engage Green: Sustainability at the Salon – November 1

November’s Engage Green event will partner with Pure | Organic Salon + Spa. Pure will explain how their practices keep our environment healthy and happy, as well as teaching ways to practice sustainable self-care at home! The event is at 6pm. More information and registration here.

Sustainability’s Second Wave: Stories
Zeppos Engages Campus Community about FutureVU Core Values

Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos and Vice Chancellor for Administration Eric Kopstain led a discussion featuring key updates about FutureVU, Vanderbilt’s land use planning initiative, Oct. 17 at the Student Life Center Board of Trust Room. Approximately 125 members of the Vanderbilt community came together for the town hall meeting, which began with remarks from Zeppos tethering Vanderbilt’s values to future land use decisions. The FutureVU team, led by Kopstain, has spent the last two years conversing with faculty, students, staff and alumni about the overall guiding principles and specific needs of the campus population. The team’s goal is to hinge all campus planning efforts and construction projects to these values, which include diversity and inclusion, sustainability and a strong connection to Nashville.

Alongside the dozens of groups and offices dedicated to a sustainable campus environment, Vanderbilt is also conducting several comprehensive operational studies to further aid in the development of solutions that may result in a significant reduction in the university’s environmental impact. These studies include a large-scale renewable energy study and a “BlueSky Vision” energy strategy study. A goal of FutureVU is to create a framework for sustainability and environmental stewardship throughout the campus. A new section of the FutureVU website has been launched to address this topic. Read more here.

from the Front Lines – November 1

The 2nd Annual Sustainability Leadership Breakfast with Judith Webb reveals impactful stories from the front lines of sustainability’s second wave, WELL buildings. This event is hosted by the U.S. Green Building Council, and breakfast will be held at Houston Station from 8-10am. More information here.

Environmental Justice in Tennessee: Challenges, Opportunities, and Planned Actions – November 1

TDEC representatives will give an overview of the concept of environmental justice, efforts to address environmental justice at TDEC and in Tennessee. The event will take place in Vanderbilt Law School’s Hyatt Room from 12-1pm. More information here.

What to Do Now: Protecting Tennessee’s Clean Water and Special Places through Citizen Advocacy – November 2
Slay Energy Vampires this Halloween

As little ghosts and ghouls prepare to come out in search of Halloween treats, be sure you don’t have any silent menaces lurking around your office or home tricking you into using extra energy!

Energy vampires are electronic devices that slowly suck energy when they are turned off but still plugged in. Each device uses only small amounts of electricity individually, but together, these devices are often responsible for 10% of an average home’s energy bill. These phantom loads add up to a significant energy demand when multiplied across the thousands of students, faculty, and staff on Vanderbilt’s campus each day.

Slaying these vampires is easy: Unplug whatever you’re not using; use an automatic timer to turn off energy consuming lights or electronics when you’re away; and plug electronics into a power strip for an easier and quicker way to turn them off all at once. Read more tips here.

Rand Roof Gets Green Update

The Rand Hall roof recently got a green update for the 2017 school year! A green roof was installed this summer through a student-initiated Vanderbilt Green Fund project. The roof on the third floor of Rand outside the wall of windows and across from the Anchor has been covered in trays containing sedum, a plant material. See a time-lapse of the green roof installation here. Green roofs provide multiple benefits including: reduced energy use, reduced heat island effect, improved storm water management, increased roof longevity, and
improved. A tray system was used which are made out of 100% recycled plastic and their modular design allows flexibility if maintenance is needed to the roof. Read more here.

Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center Fieldhouse earns LEED Silver Certification

The newest addition to the Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center (VRWC), the Fieldhouse, has received a LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED—Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—is a certification program that sets the standard for environmentally responsible construction.

The use of natural light through the north and south facing window walls lessen the need for interior lighting in the fieldhouse. To supplement the natural light in the space, energy-efficient LEDs are installed in the space, including the high bay fieldhouse lighting. Particular attention was paid to indoor environmental quality during construction and low-emitting materials were chosen when installing finishes such as paints, flooring, and adhesives. VRWC brings Vanderbilt’s total number of LEED-certified projects to 17. Read more here.

“Let’s Move Nashville” Transportation Open Houses Begin This Week

You can help take care of the Cumberland River and its tributaries right from your home. Learn from Compact staff about how you can make a difference in your neighborhood. The event is at the Cumberland River Compact from 6-7pm. More information here.

Active Neighborhood Planning Workshop – November 9

Join Walk Bike Nashville Ambassadors, advocates, and Peter Bird to learn about traffic calming, how the Nashville Metro Planning Department’s program works, how streets can be designed to lower speeds and improve walking and biking, and what you can do. More information and registration here.

Let’s Move Nashville Open House – November 9

Drop by an upcoming transportation solution open house to learn about Let’s Move Nashville, and how it can increase connectivity in your neighborhood. The Charlotte Ave Corridor open house occurs
Last week, Mayor Barry announced Let’s Move Nashville: Metro’s Transportation Solution, a $5.2 billion infrastructure investment in our city’s future. In the coming weeks, the Mayor’s office, Metro Public Works, and Nashville MTA have six open house meetings scheduled with more to come. If you are interested in learning more about the plan, please stop by one of the meetings. Feel free to drop in to whatever open house works best for your schedule, even if it is not in the corridor closest to you.

If you can’t make it to a meeting but want to know more, visit LetsMoveNashville.com, review the press release and fact sheet, or watch the announcement.

November 9 from 6-8pm. More open houses will be held this month. More information here.

2nd Annual Handmade Nashville Holiday Market–November 25

For Small Business Saturday, the market will include 50+ handmade artists and crafters from Nashville and Middle TN. Buy Local! There will also be plenty of food trucks at this event! The market will be held at Red Caboose Park in Bellevue from 10am-5pm. More information here.

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 sustainvou@vanderbilt.edu or (615) 322-2057.

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