It's "Green" to See You Again

Welcome back to another year on Rocky Top! Though this school year may look different than what we all imagined, we're grateful to be on the same campus with so many incredible students, faculty, and staff. The Office of Sustainability is excited to participate in the growth of this "new normal" together, and to continue building the skills of our aspiring leaders.

Meet the Office of Sustainability's Staff

Meet Rachel Manning, Zero Waste Coordinator! Rachel is a recent University of Tennessee graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies. After spending a few years in Chicago, she is excited to be back in East Tennessee. Rachel considers herself an advocate of local produce and products for a healthy environment and believes non-toxic and organic products should be accessible to all. When she's not working, she loves to read, hike in the Smokies, read, and hang out with her cat, Peanut.

Meet Hydrolunteers

Hydrolunteers are a group of student volunteers dedicated to river restoration projects in the Knoxville area. If you're interested in getting involved, check out their Facebook page or email them at hydrolunteers.utk@gmail.com.

Meet Food Recovery Network at UT

Food Recovery Network is a student-led organization that works to reduce food waste by recovering excess food being thrown away on campus and redistributing it to local food banks and shelters. They meet bi-weekly in the Student Union Ballroom. For more information, feel free to email them at foodrecoverynetwork.utk@gmail.com or stop by their table in the Student Union.

Meet Students Promoting Environmental Action in Knoxville (SPEAK)

SPEAK is a student organization working towards creating a more environmentally sustainable and just Knoxville. They work on various projects and initiatives, and are always looking for new members. Contact them at speak.utk@gmail.com or follow them on Instagram at @speak.utk.

Meet the Office of Sustainability's Interns

The Sustainability Internship Program offers students the chance to develop and lead their own initiatives. Interns can be from any background or major. They will benefit from a hands-on experience in an environmental organization and professional development training in unpaid positions.

The Internship Program includes the following internships:

- **Recycling Operations Assistant**: The Recycling Operations Assistant's responsibilities will include maintaining the E-waste and universal waste areas, coordinating recycling education for campus units, and maintaining procedures for testing various compost site parameters while also maintaining records of all data collected.

- **Compost Driver**: The Compost Driver will be responsible for collecting food waste at various points on campus, including dining halls and delivering to the Compost Facility. Students will gain experience with the mechanics of composting, while also being responsible for a daily sortie with their supervisors.

- **Compost Research Assistant**: The Compost Research Assistant will be responsible for creating a database of various composting systems, and will conduct research to improve the composting process. They will also help to maintain the composting site and assist with educational efforts.

- **Donations Assistant**: The Donations Assistant will help coordinate regular donations of wholesome food and other material goods on campus. They will also plan the My Tiny Trash events, which provide families with a unique opportunity to support and improve their hometown as well as our local food bank.

- **Zero Waste Assistant**: The Zero Waste Assistant will be expected to assist with maintaining the zero waste and My Tiny Trash areas of the University, and implementation of the My Tiny Trash initiative in student housing.

- **Environmental Organizations at UTK**: The Sustainability Internship Program is also offering an opportunity for students to work with the Student Environmental Initiatives Committee, also known as the Green Fee Committee. The Green Fee Committee is responsible for distributing the University's Green Fee to student environmental groups on campus.

- **Events Coordinator**: The Events Coordinator will help plan and coordinate events that promote sustainability on campus. They will also work with student organizations to promote awareness and support for sustainability initiatives.

- **My Tiny Trash Coordinator**: The My Tiny Trash Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating My Tiny Trash events and ensuring that both families and students are educated on waste reduction strategies.

- **Green Fee Committee Coordinator**: The Green Fee Committee Coordinator will work with the Green Fee Committee to develop and implement programs that promote sustainability on campus. They will also coordinate with student organizations to promote awareness and support for sustainability initiatives.

The August calendar is now available! We have multiple sizes and a phone background. Click here to download.

Green Fee Committee in Search of Members

The Student Environmental Initiatives Committee, also known as the Green Fee Committee, is in search of students for the 2020-2021 academic year. The Green Fee Committee is a student organization that receives a small portion of the student activity fees to support sustainability efforts on campus. Students who are interested in serving on the Green Fee Committee should complete the Green Fee Committee Application by August 1st. Applications are open now and will close at 11:59 PM on Wednesday, August 26th.

Click the button below to learn more information and apply for the Green Fee Committee!

Meet the Office of Sustainability's Staff

- **Rachel Manning - Zero Waste Coordinator**
- **Amber Hedges - Social Impact Coordinator**
- **Morgan Payne - Internship Coordinator**
- **Khalid Raddance - Green Fee Committee Coordinator**
- **Max Blocker - Marketing Coordinator**
- **Kathryn Smith - Sustainability Internship Program Coordinator**

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