

August 2020

Volume 6, Issue 24



It's "Green" to See You Again

Welcome back to another year on Rocky Top! Though this school year may look different than most, the Office of Sustainability stays committed to Making Orange Green by promoting a sustainable and equitable campus community. There are several ways to get involved with environmental stewardship on campus, even in these unprecedented times. Read below to see several opportunities that will enable you to Make Orange Green. Additionally, don't forget to follow the Office of Sustainability's social media accounts! They are listed on the graphic below.



Meet the Office of Sustainability's Staff

The Office of Sustainability recently welcomed two new <u>Americorps</u> members to our team. Read below to learn more about them! Click <u>here</u> to learn about more of our current staff members.



Rachel Manning - Zero Waste Coordinator

Rachel has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Maryville College and a Master's degree in Sustainability Management from American University. Rachel recently moved back to East Tennessee after spending a few years in Washington, DC working in communications. She is excited to join the Office of Sustainability to help further UT's zero waste

initiatives. Rachel is passionate about environmental education and low-waste living, and believes non-toxic and organic products should be accessible to all. When she's not working, she loves to hike in the Smokies, read, and hang out with her cat, Peanut.

Amber Heeke - Social Impact Coordinator

Amber Heeke, a proud Knoxville native, is a graduate of the University of Tennessee with bachelor's degrees in French, Spanish, and Global Studies, with a concentration in politics and economy. She's delighted to have the opportunity to support and improve her hometown as part of the Sustainability team. Amber considers herself an advocate of local produce and products for a healthy



community and environment, and her history in restaurant service has resulted in a particular interest in food insecurity, food systems, and delicious food in general. As the Social Impact Coordinator, she is dedicated to raising awareness about hunger on campus and doing everything in her power to divert good food and items from landfill destinations to students who find themselves in need.

Work for Us!

There are currently several work study positions that the Office of Sustainability is seeking to fill. The title of the jobs and brief descriptions are provided below. Click on the Job Title that

is listed to learn more information and apply. *These positions can only be filled by students who are eligible for work study.*

<u>Compost Driver</u>: The Compost Driver will be responsible for collecting food waste at various dining halls and delivering to the Compost Facility. Students will gain experience with commercial-scale composting and learn the benefits of diverting organic material from landfills.

<u>Compost Research Assistant</u>: The Compost Research Assistant will be responsible for creating and maintaining procedures for testing various compost site parameters while also maintaining records of all data collected.

<u>Donations Assistant</u>: The Donations Assistant will help coordinate regular donations of wholesome food and other material goods on campus. They will also plan the <u>UT Free Store</u> Pop-Up.

<u>Recycling Operations Assistant</u>: The Recycling Operations Assistant's responsibilities will include regularly checking and assisting community members at Public Recycling Drop-Off, maintaining the E-waste and universal waste areas, and more.

<u>Zero Waste Assistant</u>: The Zero Waste Assistant will be expected to assist with <u>Zero Waste</u> <u>Events</u>, implementation of <u>My Tiny Trash</u>, bin and signage standardization, and waste audits.



Sustainability Internship Program

The Sustainability Internship Program offers students the chance to develop and lead their own project focused on an Office of Sustainability program or initiative of their choice. Student 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 program applications are open now and will close at 11:59 PM on Sunday, September 6th.** Click the button below to learn more information and/or apply for the internship program.

Sustainability Internship Application

Environmental Organizations at UTK

Committee on the Campus Environment

SGA Environment & Sustainability Committee

Students Promoting Environmental Action in Knoxville (SPEAK)

UTK Society for Ecological Restoration

Food Recovery Network at UT

<u>Hydrolunteers</u>

Environmental Law Organization

Sustainability Meet & Greet Event

See the graphic below to learn more information about the Office of Sustainability's first virtual event this semester! To join the Zoom session, use the ID listed below.





Green Fee Committee in Search of Members

The Student Environmental Initiatives Committee, also known as the Green Fee Committee, is tasked with identifying, researching, and recommending uses of funds that support environmental stewardship and sustainability on campus. At meetings, members will discuss <u>Green Fee Proposals</u> and decide where funding should be directed. Because this money is funded through students, the committee puts an emphasis on student opinions and strives to have many students as voting members. The organization is currently recruiting members to serve during the 2020-2021 school year. **Applications are open now and will close at 11:59 PM on Wednesday, August 26th.** Click the button below to apply to be a serving member on the Green Fee Committee!

Green Fee Committee Application



The August calendar is now available! We have multiple sizes and a phone background. Email <u>sustainability@utk.edu</u> for a copy.







Sustainability.utk.edu

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