



Volunteer With Us!

As the semester comes to a close, we do not have anymore volunteer opportunities.

We will have more opportunities starting next semester, so keep an eye out for them in January!

UT Climate Strike

This is the second Climate Strike that has occurred on UT's campus this semester. The purpose of a Climate Strike is to draw attention to climate change and demand action be taken to address this problem. The first Climate Strike was on September 20th and the second was on November 22nd. The strike in November was organized by the Knoxville Chapter of the [Sunrise Movement](#) and the on-campus organization [Students Promoting Environmental Action in Knoxville \(SPEAK\)](#). Around 75 people attended the rally in the HSS Plaza. After hearing from a few students, the crowd then marched downtown to the

Knoxville City County Building. A letter about declaring a climate emergency in the city of Knoxville was written to the mayor, Madeline Rogero, before the strike. When the group arrived downtown, Erin Gill, [the City of Knoxville Sustainability Director](#), read a response letter from Rogero. The mayor expressed gratitude for the action and urgency of the people who participated. The group then completed several environmental chants and the march was concluded. Below are pictures from the November 22nd Climate Strike.



Sustainability Internship Program

The Internship Program through the Office of Sustainability has grown remarkably since its inaugural semester in Spring 2019. Currently, the program hosts 13 student interns, each working on sustainability related research projects created and implemented by the students themselves. The interns also attend monthly group meetings to collaborate on their projects, participate in workshops on professional development, learn more about sustainability, and discuss ways on how to expand the reach of their projects. Applications for the Spring semester are currently open on our website and will close on January 12th. Below is a link for the Internship application as well as a spotlight focused on two student interns that will be graduating this December. We are grateful for the work they accomplished to help make our campus more sustainable.

[Internship Application](#)

Emma Louise Karls

Emma is presently a senior studying environmental issues through a Sociology degree. After graduation, she will be moving to the Chicago area to pursue a career in her field. She has been an intern for the past two semesters in the internship program. In her first semester with the program, she created a Sorority Village

plastic recycling competition to help aid in the reduction of waste. This semester, she has been working in the UT Kitchen Garden through UT Gardens, helping to maintain their social media and complete daily gardening tasks.



Ashley Hatchell

Ashley is an Environmental and Soil Sciences Major and is currently in the process of applying to law school to earn her J.D. in order to practice environmental law. Her project this semester was focused on the UT compost site where she took samples from the three types of compost and examined a lab analysis of the nutrient availability within the piles. She did this in order to determine which type is producing the best quality compost and how UT can potentially make it better in the future.



Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

The Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is an annual program in which people join together across the United States to draw attention to the problems of hunger and

homelessness. This program was founded in 1975 at Villanova University. UT participated in this awareness initiative November 16th-24th. UT's chapter of the student organization [Swipe Out Hunger](#) coordinated the programs throughout the week. These programs were focused on raising awareness about resources that are available on campus that work to diminish food insecurity for students. The Dean of Students Office also participated, offering a Hunger and Homelessness Summit that served to connect campus and community partners concerning the problems of hunger and homelessness on college campuses. Read [this](#) UTK Article to learn more information about the activities held on campus throughout the awareness week.

Community Events

Check out these sustainability related events in our community!

[Holidays on Ice](#): November 29th to January 5th

[Beginner Yoga](#): December 8th, 5:00pm

[Hams Holiday Marketplace](#): December 8th, 11:00am to 4:00pm

[Hot Chocolate Hike with a View](#): December 12th, 4:45pm to 7:45pm

[Jingle Bell Run](#): December 14th, 8:00am

[Birds-N-Bagels](#): December 21st, 9:00am to 11:00am

Checkout the [Outdoor Knoxville Calendar](#) for more events!

How to Celebrate Holidays More Sustainably

Season "GREENings!" The holidays are a time for gathering with loved ones and celebrating life. This year, make sure to also include the Earth in your holiday plans. Click the button below to discover how you can partake in the holiday celebrations more sustainably in aspects such as gift giving, traveling, and even eating.

[Read More](#)



Sustainability-based Surveys

Listed below are two sustainability-based surveys - please take them if you are 18 or older and are a student, staff or faculty member of the UT community. The survey results will help us to make great strides in sustainability on campus.



Plastic Bag Survey

This survey inquires about plastic bag usage on campus. Plastic bags are single-use items that aren't typically recycled (even though our public dropoff takes them). Each year, 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed. Please let us know how you feel about this product by taking the survey listed above.

Plastic Bag Survey

EV Survey

This survey is about electric vehicle (EV) charging behavior on campus and purchase intention. Electric vehicles have the potential to cut annual CO₂ emissions from cars almost in half. If you take this survey, you will be entered to win an orange UTK hydroflask.





SU	01	
MO	02	
TU	03	
WE	04	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
TH	05	STUDY DAY
FR	06	EXAMS
SA	07	BAZILLION BLOOMS PICK-UP
SU	08	
MO	09	
TU	10	
WE	11	
TH	12	LAST DAY OF EXAMS
FR	13	
SA	14	GRADUATION
SU	15	
MO	16	
TU	17	
WE	18	
TH	19	
FR	20	
SA	21	
SU	22	
MO	23	
TU	24	
WE	25	
TH	26	
FR	27	UNIVERSITY CLOSED
SA	28	
SU	29	
MO	30	
TU	31	

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TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

The December calendar is now available! We have multiple sizes and a phone background.
Email sustainability@utk.edu for a copy.



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#iMAKEORANGEGREEN

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