

September 2020 Volume 6, Issue 25



### Volunteer With Us!

There are several recurring <u>volunteer opportunities</u> through the Office of Sustainability that you can participate in throughout the semester. The volunteer sites and times are listed below. Click the title of each to learn more and sign up!

Campus Cleanups: You organize your own group & choose the time

Compost Facility: Alternating Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 9am-12pm

Grow Lab: Select Saturdays, 9am-12pm

Recycling Warehouse: Every other Friday, 10am-12pm



We can end hunger one helping at a time.

# HUNGER ACTION MONTH | FEEDING AMERICA



### National Hunger Action Month

September is National Hunger Action Month. During this month, people across the U.S. join together with the Feeding America network in order to combat hunger. This time is used to educate people about the hunger crises in the United States and encourage them to take action. Hunger Action Month is particularly crucial this year because of COVID-19 - an estimated 54 million people are food insecure in 2020. Click here to learn more about National Hunger Action Month.

There are also several organizations at UTK that work to lessen food insecurity on our campus and surrounding community. They are listed below - click on their title to learn more.

**End Hunger UT** 

**Food Recovery Network** 

**Smokey's Pantry** 

**Swipe Out Hunger** 



# Green Infrastructure on **UT's Campus**

Electric vehicles (EVs) are better for the environment than petroleum or diesel vehicles. EVs emit less greenhouse gases and air pollutants. Even with electricity generation taken into account, electric vehicles produce 17-30% less carbon emissions than petroleum or diesel vehicles. In many cities, road

transport accounts for half or more of total air pollution. EVs don't just lessen air pollution, they also lessen noise pollution. Electric vehicles are much quieter than conventional vehicles, which works to create a more peaceful environment for everyone. UT supports this advanced transportation technology by offering 19 EV charging stations at three locations across campus. Click here to learn more about EV charging stations on campus.



### Sustainable Tips for COVID-19

The novel Coronavirus pandemic has brought about trying times for everyone. Life as we once knew it has changed drastically. However, these changes do not mean that you have to sacrifice sustainability measures in your everyday life. Even small actions can add up to make a big difference. Click the button below to learn about what you can do to stay sustainable even during a global pandemic.

Sustainability During the COVID-19 Pandemic

### **Community Events**

Check out these sustainability related events in our community! Some are virtual, but some are inperson events. If you attend the in-person events, remember to wear a mask and socially distance from other attendees!

Sunrise Yoga: September 11th, 9am to 10am

Hike to Camp Kinchen: September 13th, 11am to 1pm

Bradley County Master Gardner: September 16th, at 12pm

Monarch Tagging in Cades Cove: September 17th, 10:15am to 2pm

<u>UT Arboretum Butterfly Festival</u>: September 19th, at 10am

National Public Lands Day at Seven Islands SBP: September 26th, 7:30am to 10:30pm

View the <u>UTK Event Calendar</u> or the <u>Outdoor Knoxville Calendar</u> for more events!



### Sustainability Major & Minor

The sustainability <u>major</u> and <u>minor</u> engage students in a systems approach to understanding the connections between society, economics, and the environment. Experiential learning is a core goal of the sustainability program. Students take service-learning and field methods courses as part of the curriculum and are encouraged to engage in sustainability initiatives on campus and in the surrounding community. Click <u>here</u> to learn more information about the sustainability major and minor!



### Vol State Symbols

Within the U.S., each state has designated official symbols that represent the cultural heritage and natural treasures of that state. There are state flags and state beverages, but we would like to focus on state wildlife symbols that can be found within Tennessee! This month's edition will highlight the official Tennessee state amphibian, the Tennessee Cave Salamander.

The Tennessee Cave Salamander, *Gyrinophilu palleucus*, was named the official state amphibian in 1995. The salamander is often found in limestone caves that have streams in southeast and central Tennessee. These little guys are currently listed as a threatened species, which means they are vulnerable to endangerment in the near future. The salamander is particularly vulnerable to water pollution from agricultural runoff and septic tanks. Click <a href="here">here</a> to learn more about our state amphibian.



Below is a list of sustainability related jobs across the US.

Entry Level Geologist/Environmental Scientist at Acardis

Green Building Specialist at U.S. Green Building Council

Quality Operations - Environmental Monitoring Manager at MERCK

Sustainability Manager at Compass Group USA

Sustainability Science Researcher at Amazon



## **Sustainability Champion**

The Sustainability Champion is an award given monthly that recognizes a member of UT's faculty, staff, or student body who exemplifies what it means to Make Orange Green through their environmental stewardship, leadership, and/or activism. Click the button below to nominate someone green for the month of September!

Sustainability Champion Nomination Form





The September 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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