

December 3rd, 2021

## Happy Friday, Vols!

*and welcome to **The Green Leaf**.*

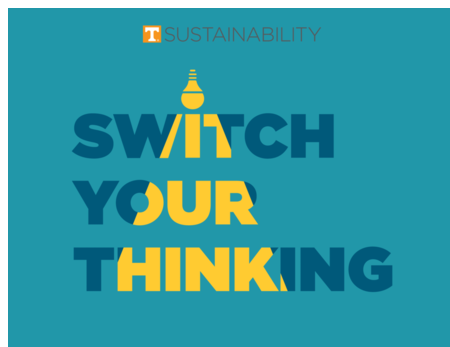
This is the last Green Leaf of the year! Thank you so much to all of our faculty, staff, and volunteers who have helped us accomplish so much this year!

### Free Store Donation Drive

The Free Store is now taking clothing, food, and hygiene donations at residence halls! Look for White bins to donate all unopened, non-perishable food, hygiene, and cleaning/laundry products. Green bins for clothing, shoes, accessories, and housewares.



These bins will be located in the lobbies of residence halls.



### Switch Your Thinking

As the colder months approach, the Office of Sustainability encourages you to **Switch Your Thinking** with us! On a campus this size, our energy consumption is one of the largest ways we impact the environment. On average in November, UTK uses 16,482,221.3 kWh of electricity and 1,335,115.5 therms of gas. November energy consumption is equivalent to 18,745 metric tons of CO2 emissions.

It's the same amount of emissions that you would get if you drove an average passenger vehicle for 47,109,284 miles (you could drive to the moon and back almost 100 times!).

Click [here](#) to learn more about what you can do!

# UTK Farm-to-Table Beef

High-quality, locally sourced 'UT Beef' is now being served on campus.

It's produced at UT's Northeast Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Greeneville and is being prepared and served through an agreement with UT Dining Services. The farm-to-table effort supports sustainable agricultural production by utilizing locally grown beef as a reliable food source and maximizing supply chain resiliency. Learn more about the program [here!](#)

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## Green Fee Proposals

Do you have an idea that would make campus more sustainable?

You can receive funding for your sustainability-related project by submitting a proposal! Unsure about what kind of proposal to submit? You can also submit a rough draft and work with someone in the Office of Sustainability on creating a full proposal.

Click [here](#) for more details!



## UT Composting Facility

The UT Composting Facility has hit its benchmark for collecting over a million pounds of compostable waste this fiscal year (since this July)! This is a record, this time last year only 592,000 lbs had been collected!

In other composting news, the Composting Facility has reconnected with the Food Science Department to collect their food waste from various food testing they do on an as-needed basis. The Compost Facility is also are working with building services at the UT Conference Center to collect their food waste from the kitchen on the 4th floor. The conference center caters for events in their own building as well as all over campus.



### Compost Coalition Residence Hall Composting Survey

The UT Compost Coalition is conducting a survey to gauge interest in residence hall composting. If you live on campus, take the survey [here](#). If you are interested in joining the Coalition and helping increase awareness and access to composting on campus, reach out to [rstewa36@vols.utk.edu](mailto:rstewa36@vols.utk.edu)

If you are a resident or RA that is interested in helping implement a composting pilot in your hall or just help with composting efforts in general, reach out to [rstewa36@vols.utk.edu](mailto:rstewa36@vols.utk.edu).

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## ***Do you need volunteer hours?***

Come hang out with passionate, like-minded individuals at one of our various sites! From the Compost Facility to the Recycling Warehouse, we always need volunteers!



If you're looking to help capture recycling on campus, we can always use a helping hand during Zero Waste Gamedays. Learn more about ALL of our volunteer opportunities [here!](#)

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## **Green Office Program**

Are you a faculty or staff member looking for ways to make your office more sustainable? Get certified through our brand new Green Office Program! We've got lots of resources that will make greening your office easy and fun.

Click [here](#) to learn more or DM us with any questions!

The Green Office Program engages faculty and staff in a fun certification program aimed to help offices contribute to the university's goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2061 and 50% waste diversion by 2030.

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## **Nominate a 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 deserving!**

[Sustainability Champion Nomination Form](#)

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*...and that's all for this month! Have a safe and sustainable December!*



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TENNESSEE  
KNOXVILLE

#iMAKEORANGEGREEN

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