

VASHE NEWSLETTER: Spring 2025

Through a new solar array at George Mason University's Fairfax Campus, the sun will play double duty in the successful growth of plants. Solar energy will power the Presidents Park Greenhouse with the electricity it needs to support the plants growing inside.

There's a publicly available article on the University newsletter, The George:

[GMU Greenhouse](#)



To reduce waste and reduce carbon emissions, UVA Health Pharmacy is moving to recyclable paper pill bottles. Made with 100% recyclable materials and a compostable paper core, Parcel Health's paper bottles, called Tully Tubes™, will be rolled out at [UVA Specialty Pharmacy](#) and [UVA Health Pharmacy Ivy Road](#).

Link: [UVA Paper Pill Bottles](#)



The Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors voted to establish a School of Life Sciences and Sustainability, which will bring together [VCU Life Sciences](#) and the [Department of Biology](#) in the [College of Humanities and Sciences](#).

Article Link: [VCU Establishes School of Life Sciences and Sustainability](#)

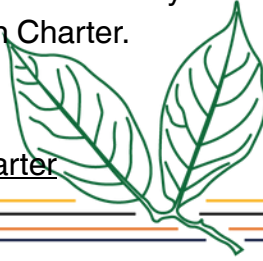
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JMU extended its commitment to foster health and well-being across campus as it formally adopted the Okanagan Charter during an event on the Festival Conference and Student Center lawn.

Created in June 2015, the charter provides institutions with a common language, principles and a cross-campus, health-promotion framework. JMU is the first Virginia university to adopt the Okanagan Charter.

Link:

[JMU Okanagan Charter](#)



Virginia Tech is powering up for a more sustainable future with the completion of four new solar array projects across the Blacksburg campus. Through careful planning and thoughtful collaboration, the solar arrays are now live and working toward Virginia Tech's Climate Action Commitment goals.

Link: [VT Solar Arrays](#)



The University of Virginia has been selected for two statewide awards in recognition of its waste reduction efforts at athletic events. UVA's "Green Games" initiative at Scott Stadium was recognized as a "Most Innovative Green Project." Led by Lela Garner, Manager for Outreach and Engagement with the Office for Sustainability, this initiative employed groups of student volunteers to sort waste at each game.

Link: [UVA Awards](#)



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What is VASHE?

The Virginia Sustainability in Higher Education (VASHE) Network is composed of sustainability professionals working in institutions of higher education across the Commonwealth of Virginia.


Participants communicate via an email listserv, conference calls and an annual in-person day-long meeting.

Mission

VASHE seeks to provide professionals with opportunities to share best practices, resources and lessons learned and collaborate across a wide range of sustainability initiatives in higher education.

Membership

By group consensus, membership is open to individuals who are full or part-time sustainability employees at an institution of higher education in Virginia. To request membership, please see the contact information below.



Contact Information: Leadership (2024-25)

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For more information on the Virginia Sustainability in Higher Education Network please visit [the VASHE website](#).