VASHE NEWSLETTER: FALL 2024

Christopher Newport University

Christopher Newport University implemented a 100% reusable take-out program in their two main dining halls last year. They use a QR code and app system through a company called Reuzzi. Students create an account, checkout a box and return the box by scanning QR codes. A return is verified when the next student checks out the bin.

Last year was the first year they went 100% reusable, as they previously had an option of disposable and reusable. They are able to limit the boxes checked out and each box has a unique code that tracks to the individual's account.

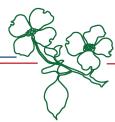
The program was started to try to gamify and incentivize reusables, and they have introduced a monthly sweepstakes rewards.



Piedmont Virginia Community College

Piedmont Virginia Community College held its ribbon cutting ceremony for the Woodrow W. Bolick Advanced Technology and Student Success Center (The Bolick Center) on Tuesday, September 17, marking the official grand opening. The facility is a net-zero energy building and is the first in the Virginia Community College System to use 100 percent alternative energy. See more details from the link below:

PVCC Bolick Center Ribbon Cutting



Radford University

Radford University has the highest percentage of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified campus building square footage of any private or public college or university in the Commonwealth of Virginia, according to publicly available building data for public and private four-year colleges and universities. The percentage of the LEED-certified buildings footprint on Radford's campus is 43.71%. See more details from the link below:

Radford University LEED

Additional Radford University News:

Radford University Crawfish Biology Radford University ARC Grant



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University of Richmond

The Princeton Review has recognized the University of Richmond as one of the top 50 schools in the nation for environmental responsibility in the 2025 edition of its annual <u>Guide to Green Colleges</u>. The University of Richmond has been ranked among the top 50 schools for three consecutive years and has been recognized in this guide for more than a decade. See more details from the link below:

University of Richmond Top 50 Green College

Additional University of Richmond News:

<u>University of Richmond Food Forest Grant</u> University of Richmond Goat-Scaping



Virginia Commonwealth University

Recognizing that the urban canopy in Richmond's historically under resourced neighborhoods needed remediation, the Sustainability Team at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) began looking for opportunities to assist in the reforestation of the city. See more details from the link below:

VCU Reforestation

Additional Virginia Commonwealth University News:

VCU News, October 2023
VCU Partnership
VCU Style Weekly



University of Virginia

University of Virginia's (UVA) Decarbonization Academy started by Engineering Professor Lisa Colosi, was led by Ethan Heil, program director and sustainability engineer at UVA's Office for Sustainability. The immersive learning experience enabled 16 UVA students to work in five teams to advance UVA's sustainability goals of being carbon-neutral by 2030 and fossil-fuel free by 2050. See more details from the link below:

UVA Decarbonization Academy

Additional University of Virginia News:

UVA NAFA Awards
UVA Sustainability Annual Report
UVA Nitrogen Footprint Analysis
UVA Green Games





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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 Informatio

Leadership (2024-25)

Ann Kildahl

Director of Sustainability Virginia Commonwealth University kildahlac@vcu.edu

Scott Jefferies

Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services Piedmont Virginia Community College sjefferies@pvcc.edu

> For more information on the Virginia Sustainability in Higher Education Network please visit <u>VASHE</u>