



Green dream team: Pravesh Agarwal (C'23), Sara McIntire (Sustainability Coordinator), Monae Scott (C'23), Emma Spicer (C'23), Elizabeth Shackelford (C'21), Kristina Romanenkova (C'23), Kaylin Thompson (C'22, not pictured), and Elizabeth Wells (C'23, not pictured).

MEET OUR NEW LEADERS IN SUSTAINABILITY!

Sustain Leaders and Environmental Residents 2020-2021 are welcoming you (back) to the Mountain! This academic year, we will continue monitoring the University's greenhouse gas emissions, working on reducing our plastic waste, and helping students lead a more sustainable lifestyle.

We look forward to seeing you at our events. Stay tuned!
YSR (Yea, Sewanee Recycles)!

Learn more about leadership opportunities in sustainability at Sewanee



It's **green**!

ECO TIPS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL RESIDENTS

Grabbing a **GREEN** to-go meal:

- Be green - get a **green** reusable container!
- Ask your server to put some **greens** in your meal. Meat? Maybe not today.
- "No utensils, please." Use compact bamboo ones that can be purchased online. Here is what mine looks like <=
- Pass by the plastic bags without looking at them and proudly put your **green box** in your "**green**" reusable shopper. Bon appetit!

SPOTLIGHT

Students in Dr. McGrath's Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems class have planted experimental garden plots on the University Farm.

Big, 'conventional' farms are much more vulnerable to extreme weather events, pests, and diseases because they heavily rely on external inorganic inputs. Smaller-scale, diverse farms imitating natural ecosystems are more resilient to the effects of climate change and they are the ones on which we may have to rely in future.

"Maybe in the future everyone will have to learn how to garden, no matter if they live in the country or in the city," Dr. McGrath suggested.



Photo from the University Farm's Instagram.

Choose your path to the Farm

GREEN DICTIONARY

Permaculture is a philosophy for a sustainable, holistic lifestyle. Ecological researcher and writer, Bill Mollison and David Holmgren coined the term in 1978. They combined the words permanent and agriculture to create permaculture as a system of ecological farming. They later changed it to permanent and culture to include the social needs of people and their housing as well. (Naturespath.com)



On the Forest Floor, collage by Kristina Romanenkova (C'23).

I made it from what I found on and around the Mountain this summer.

ENVIRONMENTAL ART

Here in Sewanee, art materials are scattered all over the place: from my favorite velvety magnolia leaves and acorn caps to butterfly wings and bird feathers. They only wait for you to pick them up and put them into a frame! Art models are everywhere you cast an eye: they are sitting on the path, hiding in the grass, crawling down the plant stems or up the tree trunks. Look at that red cardinal resting on the branch - he is so photogenic! Or those drops of water on the sassafras leaf - will you challenge yourself to draw them? I found myself writing prose about Abbo's Alley but you, you may like poetry better!

Send your photos, drawings, paintings, poems, prose, and collages inspired by nature to romank0@sewanee.edu, and you might see your work in the next newsletter. Let's celebrate nature's beauty and intricacy together!

Ready to share your art?



EDITORIAL by Kristina Romanenkova

As most people are preoccupied with safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, environmental issues are sidelined as less urgent and important. Some governments - Russia, Brazil, and the US among others - are rolling back essential environmental legislation, while unsustainable businesses are making profits on customers' fears. For example, lobbyists for the plastic industry have been promoting single-use plastic bags by claiming those to be safer than reusable ones. As a result, plastic bag restrictions have been lifted throughout the US and the world. Since then, the familiar semi-opaque packet has been transformed from the ocean's "Enemy #1" to a lifesaver in the public perception.

The fact that plastic bags have made it into the "new normal" and are not stigmatized anymore is concerning for those who have long been fighting them - environmentalists. Old habits die hard, as we know, and once normalized again, plastic bags can reclaim consumers' hearts and minds for years to come, polluting the environment for centuries to come.

"Next year the coronavirus will hopefully be a thing of the past but plastic pollution won't be. It's important that we don't increase plastic waste and litter in the meantime." - Boomerang Alliance, "Single-use Plastic in the Pandemic"

Read the article by World Economic Forum

SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS

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| September 1 | What: Frog Calls with Kevin Fouts When: 7:00 p.m. Where: Lake Cheston |
| | What: Full Corn Moon Bonfire and Moonlight Farm Tour When: 7:30 p.m. Where: University Farm |
| September 4 | What: Greenhouse Open Lawn When: 6 - 8 p.m. Where: Greenhouse (Emery) Lawn |
| September 5 | What: Hike: Green's View to Shakerag w/Sara McIntyre When: 11 a.m. Where: Meet at Green's View |
| September 8 | What: DIY Bruschetta - Snacks with the Farm Crew When and Where: TBA |
| September 12 | What: Hike: From Lake Cheston to Bridal Veil Falls w/Kevin Fouts When: TBA Where: Meet at Lake Cheston |

Stay safe and sustainable!

