



A weekly selection of issues and activities relevant to local planning in Nashville and Davidson County

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“It’s time that Federal dollars stopped encouraging sprawl...”

US Housing and Urban Development secretary Shaun Donovan said that last week, as he announced that [HUD will begin incorporating LEED-ND criteria](#) in the scoring of grant applications.

Non-petroleum machine oil

Utility crews from Central Vermont Public Service are using [biodegradable oil](#) made from animal fat on their chain saws.

Food and sustainability

Author Michael Pollan’s “The Omnivore’s Dilemma” was a seminal text of the food movement - an indictment of our unsustainable approach to food production. [Here](#), in the course of a long book review, Pollan provides some interesting perspective on how we produce, consume, and relate to food.

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The Metro Nashville-Davidson County Planning Department publishes this weekly digest to inform members of the Planning Commission, Metro Council, Board of Zoning Appeals, and other interested parties about planning and growth issues in other communities which could apply to our city and region, with particular emphasis on appropriate development, smart growth, multimodal transportation, and other information which will help us build a sustainable future and a more livable city.