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## Eight million cups of coffee

That's how many Starbucks sells every day, and most of the cups don't get recycled. Add McDonald's, Dunkin' Donuts, and other big coffee retailers to that - and they still [don't generate enough cups](#) to interest the recycling industry on any large scale.

## “Solar decathlon” generates new housing ideas

This year's Department of Energy [sun-powered-house design contest](#) includes an entry from the University of Tennessee that's aimed at “emerging young professionals” in Nashville.

## Building a \$1000 house

Architecture students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology found it was [more difficult than they expected](#).

Questions, comments, or link suggestions: [craig.owensby@nashville.gov](mailto:craig.owensby@nashville.gov)

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, local and 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.