



NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
615 Church St. | Nashville, TN | 37219

CONTACT: Ed Brown
Public Information Representative
Ed.brown@nashville.gov
615.862.5800 (desk)
502.475.6029 (mobile)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, Feb. 3, 2023

NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY RECOGNIZED FOR SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

Library Receives Official Certification and Grant



Members of NPL's Sustainability Committee participate in a litter cleanup at the Green Hills Branch Library. (Photo courtesy of Nashville Public Library)

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Public Library will enhance its food waste education, thanks to a \$5,000 grant through [Urban Green Lab's Nashville Food Waste Initiative](#).

Urban Green Lab has also awarded the library's Sustainability Committee with a Silver certification for its growing commitment to sustainable practices and sustainability education.

"I'm immensely proud of NPL's Sustainability Committee. Their hard work to make NPL a more sustainable institution deserves recognition, and it helps us create a clean, healthy environment for generations to come," Interim Library Director Terri Luke said.

NPL's Sustainability Committee formed in July 2021 to educate and engage library staff and patrons on environmental sustainability and climate change issues.

In the committee's first year, they coordinated a tree pick-up event for the Tennessee Environmental Council's Tennessee Tree Day, as well as two litter cleanup sessions by NPL staff at the library's Bordeaux and Green Hills locations.

Urban Green Lab's certification program is designed to recognize organizations that are committed to creating a culture of sustainable practice through workplace education.

Certifications are awarded in Gold, Silver and Bronze tiers. To become certified, an organization completes an assessment that scores seven different categories of sustainability practices.

A score of 61–80% is required for a Silver certification.

Each tier yields different benefits provided by Urban Green Lab, including dedicated social media posts, discounts for the lab's Roundtable membership and more.

"Nashville Public Library is a symbol of learning in our city, and now, an example of sustainability exploration. Their leadership is an inspiration for other Nashville workplaces striving to be the same," Urban Green Lab Executive Director Todd Lawrence said.

About Nashville Public Library

With more than two million books, movies and music items to choose from — plus great programming and resources to improve early and adult literacy, STEAM, ESL, and other key skills — NPL is Nashville's gateway to some of the best resources our city has to offer. Every year, across our 21-location system, thousands of visitors discover how our library lives up to our philosophy: At NPL, books are only half the story.

For more information, please visit library.nashville.org.

About Urban Green Lab

We teach communities how to live sustainably. Founded in 2009, Urban Green Lab is working to make learning how to make more sustainable choices in Nashville, Tennessee, just a part of life. We organize, train, and connect people in classrooms, households, and workplaces – places where culture begins.

For more information, please visit ubrangreenlab.org.



URBAN GREEN LAB™

- NPL -