The City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department is committed to fulfilling our mission of providing quality recreational experiences while administering the values of community image, human development, preservation of environmental resources, health and wellness, economic development and cultural unity.

Department Projects

♦ The Kids Planet Steering Committee Meeting was held on February 14 at Greer City Hall. There were 15 members in attendance including community members, City of Greer staff and Greenville County School District. Numerous ideas to consider in the renovations of Century Park Kids Planet and a schedule for moving forward were discussed. During the month of March, staff and committee members will meet with children from various elementary schools to obtain their input.

♦ Department staff met with Productions Unlimited, on February 15, to consult on the lighting and sound and with Unified AV, on February 20, to discuss the AV system for the Center for the Arts facility.

♦ Ann Cunningham met with Capitol Construction, on February 22, to discuss the finalization for the Century Park Pedestrian Bridge Project.

♦ An application for the Recreation Trails Program Grant was submitted to fund the construction of the trail through the Center for the Arts facility.

Department Trainings

♦ Department staff attended:
  - The Southern Leisure Management Trends Institute in Columbia, SC on February 1 & 2.
  - Civic Rec Activities Training on February 5 and Point of Sale Training on February 9 at the Operations Center.
  - Blood Borne Pathogen Training at Greer City Hall on February 6 & 13.
  - Pesticide CEU Workshop, on February 12, at Ewing in Greer.
  - The North Carolina Recreation and Parks Association’s Events and Marketing Conference in Chapel Hill, NC on February 20-21.
  - Website meeting on February 20 and a Web Consulting meeting on February 22 at Greer City Hall.
  - A Construction Advisory Committee Meeting, on February 21, at the J. Harley Bonds Career Center.
  - Sexual Harassment Training at Greer City Hall on February 22.
  - The Southeast Festival and Events Association Conference in Nashville, TN on February 25-28. The City of Greer was presented with a Silver Award for best merchandise among the Southeast Festivals and Events for Railfest and the Food Truck Rollouts.
  - A mandatory workshop for agencies planning to submit applications requesting Land and Water Conservation Funds in the upcoming grant cycle on February 27.
• An ICMA Coaching Webinar on February 28 at Greer City Hall.
• Training and information sessions for Civic HR and Civic Plus throughout the month.
• Justin Miller taught a First Aid Class for City of Greer employees, at the Operations Center, on February 2. Employees who attended this training also attended the CPR training at Greer City Hall on February 23.

Department Participation
♦ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended a review meeting for the Downtown Streetscapes Project on February 10.
♦ Justin Miller planned the Wellness Committee’s Volleyball event held at the Victor Gym on February 16 with 13 employees in attendance.
♦ Ann Cunningham and Sally Wise met with staff from A Oak Farms, on February 22, to review Christmas Decorations at Greer City Hall, Cannon Centre, Police and Courts, Fire Department and Operations Center. Decorations for the Center for the Arts facility was also discussed.

Department Highlights
♦ The Grounds Maintenance Division:
  • Installed asphalt ramps and locking bollards on Century Park pedestrian bridge.
  • Replaced two crawl tubes at BP Edwards Park playground and replaced picnic tables at Wards Creek playground.
  • Installed a water fountain and repaired a broken water fountain at City Stadium.
  • A new faucet was installed at Stevens Field.
  • Pressure washed City Stadium bathrooms and concrete areas around the concessions.
  • Installed Tube Dudes at Greer City Park, South Suber Road Park, Center for the Arts and the Fire Department.
  • Prepared all sports fields for the spring season of baseball, softball and soccer.
  • Applied pre-emergence on field at City Stadium, and flower beds at all facilities.
♦ Spring registration for youth baseball, girls’ softball and youth soccer continued through February 2 for city residents and non-residents.
♦ Youth wrestling practices were facilitated at Riverside High School on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Wrestlers competed in a duals match at Victor Gym on February 3. Wrestling teams from Mauldin, Dorman, Byrnes and other local areas came to compete in a team format. Duals events are very popular among local wrestling clubs.
♦ FSCG Academy soccer programming was facilitated at South Suber Road Park and Greer City Stadium. Academy teams compete Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at these facilities as well as various facilities throughout the state and southeast. The season will be completed with State Cup tournaments in May. Recreational soccer drafts were held on February 12-13 at Greer City Hall. Practices started on February 19 at South Suber Road Park on Monday and Thursday nights. Games are scheduled to begin on March 17 with each team playing 10 regular season games.
♦ Youth basketball league activities were facilitated at Victor Gym and Mauldin Sports Center. Currently seven teams, consisting of three (8U), two (10U) and two (12U), practice and scrimmage on Monday – Friday nights. Teams competed in a post-season tournament. For the first time in the history of Greer Parks and Recreation there will be an 8U Boys All Star Team participating in the 2018-2019 South Carolina Athletic Program District Tournament.
♦ Greer Baseball Club hosted a coaches training at Century Park, on February 20, for all youth volunteer baseball coaches. Coach Steve Goodwin (former Blue Ridge High School Head Coach) spoke to the coaches and provided great practice tips.
♦ Greer Baseball Club 4U and 6U drafts were held at the Operations Center on February 24. Teams will begin practicing on March 5 and Opening Days will be April 13-14. GBC board members and recreation staff conducted player evaluations, at Century Park, on February 26-27 for players age 7-14. The players were evaluated on pitching, fielding and hitting. Coaches will draft teams on March 1.
A High School Varsity Soccer scrimmage between Riverside High School and Blue Ridge High School was hosted at Greer City Stadium on February 14. Approximately 100 people attended the game. This event was a great success and the Parks and Recreation Department will look to host additional high school games in the future.

The Recreation Division continued to facilitate the following programs:

- Senior Action – Needmore Recreation Center, Mondays - Fridays (200 participants monthly)
- Piano Performers – Cannon Centre, Mondays (220 participants monthly)
- Never Alone – Tryon Recreation Center (80 participants monthly)
- Cutlery Club – Tryon Recreation Center (20 participants monthly)
- Artifacts Club – Tryon Recreation Center (74 participants monthly)
- Pickleball – Victor Gym & Tryon Tennis Courts (250 participants monthly)
- Whole Fitness – Victor Gym (60 participants monthly)
- Senior Whole Fitness – Victor Gym (20 participants monthly)
- HAM Radio, Beginner and Intermediate Classes – Victor Gym (104 participants monthly)
- Creative Advancement After School Program – Victor Gym (280 participants monthly)
- Needmore After School Program – Needmore Recreation Center (100 participants monthly)

S.O.A.R. (Seniors Out and ARound):

- Line Dancing Classes were held on February 7, 14, 21 and 28 with an average attendance of 23 seniors.
- Bingo was held on February 1 and 15 with 18 members in attendance.
- The 3rd Annual Valentine’s Day Party was held on February 9 at the Cannon Centre. Seventy-six seniors attended a fun day of dancing, fellowship and a great catered lunch from South House in Greer.
- The SOAR monthly Potluck Luncheon was held on February 20 with a special guest speaker, Kathleen Stevens with GHS PACE Senior Care. Ms. Stevens presented information to 20 members about the services offered through the GHS PACE program.
- On February 23, the Lunch Bunch took a trip to Tucanos Brazilian Grill in Greenville, SC. Ten members were in attendance.
- A tour of the Greer Inland Port was attended by 14 seniors on February 27. The group experienced a behind the scenes look at the port.
- The average attendance for the month was 27.

The first of four “Walk with Your Local Elected Officials” kicked off at Greer City Hall on February 17. Twenty employees and residents were in attendance to stroll through town with Mayor Rick Danner, Councilwoman Judy Albert and Police Chief Matt Hamby. The next walk is set for May 19.

The Foothills Philharmonic held their Annual Chamber Concert at the Cannon Centre on February 10. Approximately 200 people attended.

The Greer Children’s Theatre performed Alice in Wonderland Jr at the Cannon Centre February 23-25 with approximately 250 people at each performance with Sunday being sold out. Due to the flexibility of the Cannon Centre, 40 chairs were added for the Sunday performance.

Cultural Arts Division dance and art classes continued on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Tryon Recreation Center with approximately 18 students each week.

Cultural Arts Division staff and several GCAC volunteers cleaned the prop room at the Tryon Recreation Center and sorted costumes.

The Events Division hosted 54 events at which 2,814 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

The 2nd Greater Greer Bridal Showcase was hosted at Greer City Hall on February 10. Upstate brides visited with local wedding vendors while the Events Division highlighted Greer City Hall and the Cannon Centre as prime wedding venues.

The Events Division is in the process of planning for the following event:

- The 4th Annual Greer Goes Global International Festival on April 14 from 11am-4pm at Greer City Park.
- Freedom Blast 2018 on June 30 from 6pm-10:30pm at Greer City Park.
Upcoming Events

♦ Hope Week – April 2-8
♦ Senior Computer Classes – April 5-May 10 (Thursdays)
♦ International Festival – April 14
♦ Opening Day (Baseball/Softball) – April 13-14
♦ Food Truck Rollout – May 18
♦ Tall Tale Tuesdays – June - July
♦ Moonlight Movies – June 7 - July 26 (Thursdays)
♦ Needmore & Victor Summer Camp – June 11 - August 10
♦ Freedom Blast – June 30
♦ National Night Out – August 7
♦ Camp ARK Performance – August 10-12 and August 17-19
♦ Food Truck Rollout – August 17
♦ Railfest – September 15
♦ Artisan Makers Market – September 29
♦ Food Truck Rollout – October 19
♦ Halloween Hoopla – October 27
♦ Christmas in Greer Tree Lighting – December 7
♦ Breakfast with Santa – December 8
♦ Food Truck Rollout – January 18

Current Projects

♦ Victor Park Batting Cage Installation – Completed
♦ Bicycle Racks for the Downtown Area of Greer – 5 Installed; 12 Racks and 1 Fix-It Station in Storage Awaiting the City Streetscape Project
♦ Center for the Arts Renovation – Phase 2 (Conceptual Design Phase)
♦ Kids Planet Master Plan – Alta Planning + Design (Awarded Design Phase)
♦ Bankhead Highway Historical Marker for Poinsett and Depot Street Intersection – Received on February 6 – Installed During City Streetscape Project

“Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs”