

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for May 2015



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 Parks and Recreation Department submitted a grant application to Greer State Bank in the amount of \$1,500 to fund the “Tall Tale Tuesday’s” program held at the Cannon Centre. The winning agency will be announced on June 15.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation staff finalized the Revised Volunteer Disclosure and Guidelines with guidance from the Human Resources staff. These department policy revisions will aid in securing participant safety through detailed background checks and procedures. The new guidelines will be in accordance with the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS).
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff reviewed and finalized proposed changes to the Comprehensive Fee Schedule for the department. This will be presented as part of the budget for FY2015/2016.

Bids

- ◆ Bids for the H. R. Turner Field Grading/Drainage project were opened on May 8. The bid was awarded to Capitol Construction, Spartanburg, SC.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the SCPRT Recreation Trails Program Regional Workshop on May 6 at McPherson Park in Greenville. This workshop gave direction on applying for a trails grant through SCPRT for the next three year grant cycle.
- ◆ On May 15, Robin Byouk attended a Money Making II: A Seminar for the Non-profit Arts and Entertainment Industry.
- ◆ Members of the Parks and Recreation staff attended ADA Sensitivity training on May 19.
- ◆ On May 27, Justin Miller attended the Greenville County Schools Food and Nutrition Orientation and Training in preparation for the upcoming summer camps.
- ◆ Parks and Recreation staff met with Ruthie Helms, Scott Keeley and Carl Howell for an ADA accessibility inspection of the Needmore and Tryon Community Recreation Centers.

Department Participation

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department participated in the Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce Family Festival by providing an information booth, the main stage and providing additional staff to aid in set up and break down. Greer City Park was host to Ovations Brands Community Stage, Mitsubishi Anne Helton Creation Station, Davis Orthodontics Kids Zone and Food Court.
- ◆ On May 5, Leadership Greer held a Quality of Life Presentation. Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Bruce Viehman and Parks and Recreation Department supervisors gave a brief presentation on their respected divisions and overall department programs/events/functions. This program ended with an on-hands disc golf demonstration at Century Park. All participants were given a City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department disc as a souvenir.
- ◆ On May 6, members of the Parks and Recreation Department met with members of the Greer Post 115 American Legion to discuss scheduling of Stevens Field.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the City of Greer APC meeting on May 8.
- ◆ On May 14, Ann Cunningham volunteered as a judge for Senior Project Presentations at Greer Middle College Charter High School. Approximately 100 volunteers throughout the community participated.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson participated in Upstate Forever's Taylors Town Square: Community Revitalization in an Unincorporated Area on May 15. This gave us the opportunity to learn about community initiatives and identify potential partnerships that may aid in addressing future growth in both Taylors and Greer.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Justin Miller represented the City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department in the Opening Ceremony of LiveWell Greenville's Park Hop program at Conestee Park on May 16. This event was the kick-off of the summer long scavenger hunt throughout Greenville County and state parks.
- ◆ The Freedom Blast Military Committee lunch was held on May 21 at Greer City Hall. Representatives from the local Chapter 39 DAV, National Guard, Army Aviation Support and other military groups attended the meeting to finalize details for the event.
- ◆ Mark Owens, Reno Deaton and Ann Cunningham met with Dr. Bob Brookover on May 29, to review the Economic Activity Study results for both the International Festival and Family Fest.
- ◆ The date of June 16 was scheduled for our upcoming meeting for the Greenville County Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment in Greer. This is the final community meeting for Greenville County residents to voice their wants/needs in this study. The meeting will be held at Greer City Hall at 5:30pm.

Department Highlights

- ◆ Interviews were conducted with candidates for the Events Coordinator position and the part-time Summer Camp Counselor positions.
- ◆ Parks and Recreation Department staff met with basketball coaches from Greer High School to discuss the formation of an AAU basketball program.
- ◆ The City of Greer Employee Golf League started on May 20. Four teams consisting of 2 golfers each, make up the league. The Parks and Recreation Department, Fire Department, Police Department, the Greer Chamber of Commerce (Mark Owens) and City Council (Councilman Dumas) are representing their respective areas.
- ◆ The Grounds Division:
 - Repaired the irrigation control at City Park and the main valve at Victor Park.
 - Replaced amplifier for the fountain at City Park.
 - Replaced hot water heaters at County Club Road Park and Century Park.
 - Removed Family Fest banners and installed spring banners in the downtown area and City Park.
 - Summer annuals were installed at City Park.
 - All athletic fields were prepared for the spring seasons.
 - Spring mowing and trimming continues at all facilities.

- ◆ The Recreation Division introduced a new program titled “Mothers in Common” which meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at the Tryon Recreation Center. This is a teen group of mothers or expectant mothers who support, encourage and help each other become adjusted to their new addition.
- ◆ The Tumbling program met at the Tryon Recreation Center on Wednesday evenings. The Cutlery Club and Artifacts Club also meets on one Tuesday each month and the Never Alone group meets every Tuesday evening at the Tryon Center. Several activities and programs continue to meet each month: Senior Action meets at the Needmore Center every Monday – Friday. Piano Performers continues to be facilitated every Monday at the Cannon Centre.
- ◆ On May 8, the Greer Garden Council and the Creative Advancement Afterschool program held a beautification day at Victor Gym. The Garden Council taught the participants about planting and how to properly plant flowers.



- ◆ Pickle Ball was introduced to the community with a demonstration of the game on May 28. The response was amazing and free play is now offered at the Tryon Recreation Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30pm.



- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) traveled to Harrah’s Cherokee Casino in Cherokee NC. SOAR met at Wild Ace Pizza in Greer, traveled to Strawberry Hill for breakfast and strawberries. Soar teamed up with Senior Action and participated in a Mother’s Day Event, line dancing classes and the Walking Buddies program. They continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during the month was 8.
- ◆ Youth baseball and softball recreation and academy practices were facilitated at Century Park, Country Club Road Park, Turner Field, Riverside Middle, Davenport and Victor Park. The baseball and girls’ softball seasons concluded with a tournament in each age division.
- ◆ On May 22, a GBC Board meeting was held to select baseball and girls softball All-Star teams for 8U, 10U and 12U divisions. These teams will represent Greer in the Dixie Youth Baseball/Softball regionals in June.
- ◆ Regional tournaments were scheduled for June:
 - Frohawk Creek Scramble at Century Park on June 6-7.
 - Greer Upper State at Century Park on June 13-14.
 - District Girls’ Softball Tournament at Victor Park on June 19-20 and June 29-30.

- ◆ Youth soccer academy practices and games were facilitated at South Suber Road Park and Country Club Road Park. The spring season concluded on May 16. Youth soccer academy tryouts were facilitated at Suber Road Soccer Complex and Country Club Road Park. These teams will participate in competition all across South Carolina in 2015-2016.
- ◆ On May 28, the FSCG Board met to wrap up the spring season and discuss the upcoming fall season. A few changes were made to the rules and a decision was also made to begin utilizing Saturday mornings in the U6 division due to the continued growth of the program.
- ◆ The Athletics Division facilitated the regular season adult softball league at Century Park on Wednesday nights. The league will conclude on June 10.
- ◆ The Cultural Arts Division held Greer Idol auditions during the Greer Chamber's Family Fest. Great talent is once again competing this season with 6 Greer Teen Idols and 8 Greer Idols.
- ◆ The Events Division hosted 69 events, at which over 25,458 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ On May 28, the Events Division hosted the Master Plan Community Celebration. The community was invited to the Cannon Centre to view the completion of the Master Plan. All attendees received the completed plan on a flash drive. Many of the Parks and Recreation Department staff members attended the presentation.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning and executing 2015 events such as: Moonlight Movies (June 4-July 30) and Freedom Blast (June 27). Finalizing the Freedom Blast t-shirt artwork and scope of work continued.



"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"