

Parks, Recreation & Tourism **August 2022 Monthly Report**

Current/Ongoing Projects

Wards Creek Trail System & South Tyger River Greenway

- Architects with Keck & Wood, Inc. are continuing the process of designing the trail system for the Wards Creek Trail.
- The construction documents for the South Tyger River Greenway are being finalized and should be submitted for review next month.

Greer Golf

- The conceptual plans for the clubhouse/pool areas and the construction timeline should be completed and submitted next month.

Needmore Recreation Center Pickleball Courts

- There is no update from GCRA on the bids for renovation. The project is currently “On Hold” due to difficulty in getting contractors.

Cannon Centre Deck Renovation

- Green Earth Partners began construction on August 4, and the project remains on-going.

Turner Park

- Architects with Keck & Wood, Inc. are preparing construction documents for the renovation of Turner Park. This will include the addition of a softball/baseball field in the lower section of the park.

Suber Road Park

- The Parks, Recreation & Tourism portion of this project has been delayed. It will resume with the completion of the Fire and Police Departments plans.

Department Highlights

Administration

- On August 8, Ann Cunningham and Justin Miller met with Nathan Murphree to discuss the upcoming “Fall Brawl” Disc Golf tournament at Century Park.
- Ann Cunningham and Sam Merrell met with Mr. Merriman and Mayor Danner on August 9 to discuss an upcoming inter-city golf challenge between Greer and Goose Creek.
- Ann Cunningham met with Matt Flege (Upstate Greenways and Trails Alliance) on August 10 to discuss trail development and opportunities in the City of Greer.
- On August 12, Ann Cunningham, Justin Miller, Tripp Barrineau (Keck & Wood, Inc.) and Councilman Karuam Booker met to walk and discuss alternative routes for the Wards Creek Trail. Later, Ann Cunningham, Cory Holtzclaw and Tripp Barrineau visited Kids Planet and Turner Field to discuss future plans for each site.
- The Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department participated in a City of Greer recruitment video on August 24 at Greer City Park with Mr. Merriman and other city department staff members.
- On August 31, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with Mr. Merriman and members of the Finance Department to discuss Greer Golf operations and inventory procedures.

Division Highlights

Athletics

- Cheer For Greer held practices each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at Greer City Stadium and also held a week long instructional camp at Victor Gym on August 1-5.
- Coach Miller from Furman University attended the August 2nd session of the Summer Flag Rugby League at Country Club Park and trained all participants.
- Open mat sessions for the Tomahawk Youth Wrestling program have been held throughout the month at Victor Gym and Tryon Recreation Center in preparation of the 22-23 season.
- Practices for the Fall Girls Softball League were held every night of the week at Victor Park.
- Practices for the Fall Recreation Baseball League were held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights, and the Academy Baseball League practices were held on Wednesdays and Sundays.
- The Foothills Soccer Club Recreation League began practices and games on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The Academy League began its practices and games on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- The Greer Junior Jackets Tackle Football teams held practices each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Greer City Stadium. Teams also competed in a tournament in Mauldin, SC on August 20 and claimed the championship in every age group.
- The Greer Police Department held its 11th Annual Upstate Law Enforcement Softball Tournament at Century Park on August 20.

Cultural Arts

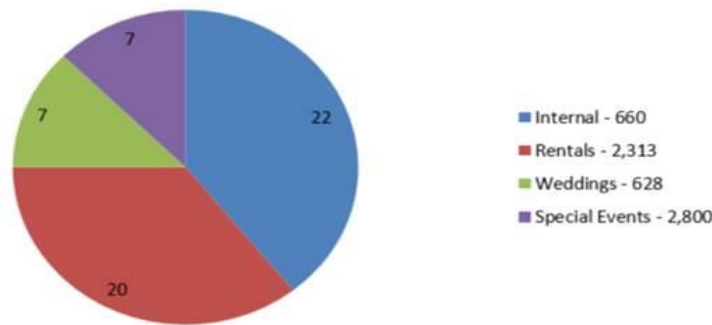
- On August 2, GCAC held a read through of *Peter Pan Jr.* for the directorial team and then held auditions on August 8 and August 9, with callbacks on August 11. The cast list was then posted on August 15.
- Pottery artist Martha Grattan held pottery classes on Saturdays along with Open Studios on Fridays at the Center for the Arts. Fellow clay artist, Gary Huntoon, retired suddenly due to health reasons, so Martha will be helping his students complete their projects.
- Sandra Braidman held candle making classes on Saturdays at the Center for the Arts.
- Robin Byouk attended Social Media Training for Artists at the Greenville Center for the Creative Arts on August 16.
- The Greer Children's Theatre started rehearsals for *Peter Pan Jr.* on August 27 with a parent/cast meeting. Rehearsals are held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings and Saturdays at either the Center for the Arts or the Tryon Recreation Center.
- The fourth Tunes in the Park was held on August 27, with a record crowd to enjoy The Mighty Kicks and the fourth round of Greer Idol and Greer Idol Jr.

Events

- The Greer Farmers Market continued its weekly market with over 40 vendors. On August 2, it hosted the Watermelon Festival which included a watermelon cooking competition. The market took place each Tuesday night through August 30, which wrapped up their weekly market season with an Apple Festival. The market will continue once a month in September, October and November.
- The Moonlight Movie summer series ended on August 4 despite rain and scattered thunderstorms. Guests had the opportunity to enter into a free raffle, watch magic by JJ's Magic, and enjoy free kid's crafts. Ice cream, popcorn, pizza and hot dogs were available for purchase onsite by Abbott's Frozen Custard.
- Robbie Davis attended a workshop through "10 at the Top" on August 12 to discuss creating community vibrancy through festivals and events.

- The Ambassadors continued to provide excellent customer service to our citizens by picking up over 1,000 passengers in downtown Greer Station in the month of August.

Rentals



Golf

- Grounds staff continues to work on repairing greens and keeping up with routine cutting, and on August 15, the greens were verti-cut.
- Staff is working on obtaining pricing for equipment upgrades to the range, such as a range cart and picker, a bush hog to cut the range, and a spreader for fertilizer.
- On August 17, Greer Golf hosted the SCTMA Annual Fundraiser Golf Tournament. Staff worked with Justin Raney and Travis Durham from the City of Greer Public Services Department to host the tournament that consisted of 17, four-man teams. The tournament was a success, and Greer Golf hopes to have them return in the future.
- Oakton, the new neighborhood across the street from Greer Golf, has begun construction of its homes with the expectation to begin closings in October. Greer Golf will receive a check for one membership (paid in full) with each sale.
- Grounds staff has begun working on information for a Palmetto Pride Tree Grant for trees along Gap Creek Road.
- Cart path repairs on holes 11, 12 and 14 were completed the week of August 29.
- Revenue for the months of July and August of the current fiscal year totaled \$197,879. This is a 219% increase from 2021 (\$90,176.01).

Recreation

- The Victor Park and Needmore Recreation Center Summer Camps concluded on August 5th. The 8-week camps hosted an average of 85 kids daily.
- The Youth Chasing Every Opportunity organization held a Book Bag Giveaway at Victor Gym on August 13.
- Absolute Total Care and 96.3FM hosted a block party at the Needmore Recreation Center on August 29.
- Pickleball Clinics and Open Play sessions were held at Victor Gym and Tryon Park.
- Senior Action continued to meet at Needmore Recreation Center each weekday for activities and lunch.
- Never Alone continued to meet at Tryon Recreation Center on Tuesdays.
- Archery met at Victor Gym on Monday and Thursday nights and at City Stadium on Wednesdays.
- Seniors Out and Around (SOAR):
 - Hosted Line Dancing sessions on Wednesdays at Cannon Centre
 - Hosted Bingo, Book Club, Movie/VR day, and Walking Program days throughout month
- Rentals:
 - Kids Planet Shelters – 52
 - Recreation Centers – 9
 - Neighborhood Parks - 1

Tourism

- On August 3, Lindsey Shaffer and the City of Greer’s Cultural Arts Division met with Will Culler, Director of the SC Ag + Art Tour, to discuss Greenville County potentially participating in the 2023 tour. Discussions also included connecting with local organizations to see if there is interest in forming a committee. The Center for the Arts would be a “stop” on the tour.
- Lindsey met with Robin Byouk and Jess Burgess (CEO of Greenville Center for Creative Arts) on August 17 for a tour of the Center for the Arts and discussed GCCA’s involvement in the SC Ag + Art Tour.
- Lindsey published an article in the *SC Recreation & Parks Association* Fall 2022 magazine highlighting the City of Greer as a National Community Wildlife Habitat.
- Staff attended One Spartanburg’s Taste of Middle Tyger event on August 18 featuring a presentation on “Hubitality,” which provides emergency assistance to hospitality industry employees in Spartanburg County in times of personal crisis.
- Lindsey met with the Greer Farmers Market Board on August 19 to gauge interest in the SC Ag + Art Tour.
- Lindsey met with Derrick Lark, GIS Coordinator, on August 26 to begin training for building interactive tourism maps.
- Lindsey attended the Southeast Festivals & Events Association Board Retreat on August 30 and August 31 for conference planning in Myrtle Beach and also met with the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce and CVB on August 30 to discuss their tourism initiative and data collection.

<u>Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Current Projects</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greer Farmers Market – Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 (City Park) • Upstate Renaissance Faire – Sept. 10 (City Park) • “Get Your ART On!” Arts Fair – Sept. 17 (Center for the Arts) • Tunes in the Park – Sept. 17 (City Park) • Railfest – Sept. 24 (City Park) • Greer Arts & Eats Festival – Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 (City Park) • Hispanic & Latino Heritage Art Exhibition Reception Oct. 4 (Center for the Arts) • Greenspan Big Band – Oct. 8 (Center for the Arts) • Foothills Philharmonic Concert – Oct. 14 (Center for the Arts) • Food Truck Rollout – Oct. 20 (City Park) • Greer Children’s Theatre presents <i>Peter Pan Jr.</i> – Oct. 21-23 & 28-30 (Cannon Centre) • Artisans Makers Market – Oct. 22 (City Park) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greer Golf Redesign Clubhouse & Pool Area • Cannon Centre Deck Renovation • South Tyger River Greenway • Wards Creek Trail System • Needmore Recreation Center Pickleball Courts • Turner Park Renovation

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.