



Parks & Recreation Department July 2021 Report



Tall Tale Tuesdays

"Creating Community Through People, Parks, & Programs"

Department Personnel Update

- Offers were extended and accepted by candidates for the fulltime Athletics Coordinator and Administrative Clerk positions. Both candidates should be on board in the next couple of weeks.
- We currently have two (part-time) Groundskeeper positions open. Both are for weekend work, one at City Park and the other at Kids Planet.
- We welcomed LeChelle Drummond and Richard Watson into our Grounds Division. They were transferred into our department from Public Services. Both are fulltime Custodians that work under Gary Melton in the City Park/Downtown Park areas.
- Will Pitts, summer intern with Southern Wesleyan College, has been working with each division in the department, learning about the different programs/activities that we offer throughout the year.

Bids

- Bids were opened for In-House Turf Management Program products. The contract will be awarded to Howard Fertilizer, Dallas, TX.

Completed Projects

Disc Golf Course Re-Design

- Innova Disc Golf, who designed our disc golf course at Century Park in 2007, created a redesign of the course and the renovation was completed the week of July 26. The holes on the back nine, specifically holes 15-18, were effected with the Kids Planet renovation. Kudos to our grounds division! Travis and his staff did a tremendous job in completing all of the renovations prior to the upcoming tournament on August 1.

Current/Ongoing Projects

Benson Automotive Kids Planet

- Staff continued working on irrigation and parking lot improvements. Irrigation installation is scheduled for August 23-25 (Monday through Wednesday) and the park will be closed. Rain date is the following (Monday through Wednesday), August 30 – September 1.
- New picnic tables are scheduled for replacement in the fall.
- Travis Durham and Ann Cunningham met with Trees Upstate on July 21 at Kids Planet to discuss the planting of new trees this winter. We are currently planning to add 32 indigenous hardwood trees throughout the playground area.

South Tyger River Wildlife Corridor Master Plan

- We are continuing to work towards the development of a Master Plan. This plan will focus on site analysis and existing resources/conditions for Greer Golf, trail locations and nature preserve areas serving as a corridor between the lakes, through the golf course, adjacent properties, Country Club Road Park and surrounding residential developments. Once this plan is complete, we will have a better understanding of opportunities that may be available to us regarding wildlife, recreational activities and facilities and educational opportunities.

H.R. Turner Park

- We are working towards the development of a youth rugby sports program through our department. This program would be unique to Greer as no other recreation department in the Upstate offers youth rugby. We hope to be the catalyst for growing this sport in our area.
- Moving forward with plans that include renovating the lower field that was once “Big Turner ball field” into a multi-use area for Rugby that will feature removable rugby posts, barrier netting and spectator seating. Additional sports/activities will also be hosted on this site.
- Apostolic Construction continued construction of the restroom building at H.R. Turner Park.

Stream Bank Re-nourishment at Century Park

- Parks and Recreation Department staff, along with Clemson University, continue to monitor the Stream Bank Re-Nourishment surrounding Maple Creek at Century Park. This includes invasive species removal, native vegetation growth, and stability of erosion control fabric along the banks. Staff from Clemson Extension also monitor the progress through routine visits to Century Park.

Greer Golf

- Ella’s at the Course spent 2 weeks cleaning the kitchen, meeting with DHEC, SLED and DOR in preparation for the opening.
- Over 30 children from our Needmore and Victor Summer Camps participated in a 5-week golf and swimming camp at the course. Jim Young and Sam Merrell taught the campers the basics of golf for one hour each week, followed by one hour in the pool.
- The driving range experienced frequent closures due to a shortage of golf balls. We ordered stock in April and expect to receive the shipment in August.
- Staff worked on ordering apparel for the pro shop and scheduling time with an interior designer for the clubhouse.
- Staff met with our Marketing Consultant from Communicating Results Group on July 22 to discuss action items for our Marketing and Advertising Campaign.

- All construction has concluded for the Front 9 grading and grassing project. Staff will focus on growing the grass in over the next 5-7 weeks. Hurricane Elsa caused a slight delay in the overall schedule. We are now a few days behind, but still anticipate opening in mid-late September.
- New ceiling fans were installed on the three porches surrounding the clubhouse.

Needmore Pickleball/Walking Trail

- Recreation staff held a Community Interest Meeting on July 19 in partnership with Greenville County Redevelopment and Cardno Architecture firm. This meeting highlighted the initial architectural drawings of the Needmore Park abandoned tennis courts. This space is planned to be converted to six pickleball courts and a walking trail with benches and shaded seating. Approximately 20 community members attended and were encouraged to give critical feedback to assist this project.

Department Trainings

- Athletic Supervisor attended SC LEAD training on July 15-16 (Kershaw County).
- Staff continued with on-line MASC training.

Division Highlights

Athletics

- Foothills Soccer Club Greer
 - Facilitated academy soccer summer workouts at Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights in preparation for the upcoming South Carolina Youth Soccer Association fall season. This program will have four age groups competing this season (U13, U14, U15, and U17 boys).
- Greer Baseball Club Academy Division
 - Facilitated Greer Baseball Club Academy practices at Stevens Field and Century Park. Academy teams competed in tournaments throughout the Upstate and Southeast during the month of July. The 10U and 13U teams continue to be nationally ranked.
- American Legion
 - Greer American Legion Junior & Senior baseball teams held practices/games at Stevens Field on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the month. The season ended for both teams in the American Legion State Playoffs.
- Tournaments
 - Greer Baseball Club All-Star teams competed in the Dixie Youth State Tournament in the 6U, 8U, 10U, and 12U divisions. The 6U team finished in the top four in the State and the 8U team finished as State Runners-Up. It was another fantastic experience for all of the all-star teams that represented Greer Baseball Club.



8U All-Star Team



6U All-Star Team

- Flag Football
 - Completed flag football drafts for 6U, 9U, and 12U teams on July 27. These teams will utilize Country Club Road Park this season for practices and games. Practices will begin in early August with games beginning in September.
- Tackle Football/Cheerleading
 - Facilitated youth tackle football and Cheer for Greer practices at Greer City Stadium and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights in preparation for the upcoming season. Both the tackle football and Cheer for Greer programs are at maximum capacity for the season.
- Fall Registration
 - Fall registration for youth baseball, flag football, soccer, and girls' softball was completed. Maximum capacity was reached in flag football, soccer and girls softball for the season.

Recreation

■ Programs

○ Senior Action

- Moved to the Tryon Recreation Center for the summer as the summer camps occupied the Needmore Recreation Center. Senior Action met on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to host light exercising and bingo as well their lunch pick up program.

○ Summer Camps

- Continued with Camp Greer (Victor Gym) and Camp Needmore (Needmore Recreation Center). Camp Greer facilitates 50 children daily and Camp Needmore facilitates 30 children daily participating in numerous fun summer activities Monday – Friday, 7:30am-6:00pm.

○ Needmore Parking Lot Sealcoating

- The Needmore Recreation Center lower parking lot was seal coated and re-striped in July. Two handicap spaces were moved to accommodate ADA regulations and a crosswalk was added to the parking lot for safe crossing to the playground and recreation center.



○ Other Programs

- JOAD Archery (30)
- Artifacts Club (20)
- Cutlery Club (25)
- Pickleball Clinics (116)
- Our Adaptive Pickleball program continued to have great success. Another adaptive night was held on July 14 at Victor Gym. This program is a partnership between Roger C Peace and UpstatePickleball.com. Twenty-two athletes competed in the July session.



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- Never Alone (30)
 - Recreation Center Rentals (14)
 - Benson Automotive Kids Planet Shelter Rentals (113)
 - Seniors Out and AROUND (SOAR)
 - SOAR Line Dancing Classes were held on July 14, 21 & 28. An average of 31 seniors were in attendance each week.
 - SOAR met for BINGO at City Hall on July 1 & 15 with an average of 22 seniors in attendance.
 - The Walking Program met for the Beginner's Walk at Veteran's Park on July 13. Five walkers joined us that day for some exercise. Our second walking day of the month was on July 27 at Greer City Park. Seven intermediate walkers joined us for a 2 ½-mile walk.
 - Movie Day was held on July 19 with 18 SOAR members attending. We started the morning with seniors testing out the Virtual Reality equipment again. The seniors love the opportunity to experience their own

personalized VR session. Upon completion of the VR opportunity, we watched the Drama “The Magic of Belle Isle”.

- On July 30, we celebrated Christmas in July with a Christmas Crafting Party at City Hall. Thirty seniors joined a morning filled with Christmas music, treats, a Christmas ornament craft and a surprise visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.
- The average attendance for the month was 36 seniors.

Cultural Arts

- Classes
 - The week of July 12-16, Greer Cultural Arts Council (GCAC) held their second beginner drama camp called Land and Sea Animals. Registration was full at 29 students.
 - Paint/Clay half day classes held a second session July 19-22. Classes were at full capacity.
 - The Recreation Division summer camps visited the Center for the Arts and participated in ceramics classes in the morning and the afternoon, Monday thru Friday for 2 weeks, July 12-23.
- Camps
 - On July 11, Greer Children’s Theater (GCT) held auditions for the advanced camp production of School House Rock Live! Jr. A parent meeting followed on July 12.
 - The week of July 19-22, GCT held the first week of advanced camp from 9-5pm.
 - GCAC held their second week of advanced camp at the Center for the Arts July 23-29.
 - The campers will perform School House Rock Live! Jr. at the Center for the Arts the first 2 weekends in August.
- Events
 - The Tall Tale Tuesday’s events were held at the Center for the Arts.
 - On July 13, Fred Baus, children’s author read his new book, The Great Gooferman, and a book of poems, The Squirrel Acorn Train.
 - On July 20, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Greenville came with their Owls and Kestrels.
 - On July 27, Jeff White shared several of his father’s favorite stories.
 - The 3rd Tunes in the Park was held on July 17 at the City Park amphitheater. The band was the Carolina Coast Band and the crowd was the largest to date.

Grounds Maintenance

- Division Staff
 - Plant growth regulator was applied to South Suber Road soccer fields, City Stadium and Victor Field.
 - Fertilizer 29-3-8 was applied to City Stadium and Victor Field and 24-5-11 was applied to Country Club Road Park athletic fields and Century Park Field 1.
 - Tension adjustments were made to Kids Planet 100’ zip line cable and new seats were installed on the 100’ and 3 track zip lines.
 - Two roll cart enclosures were installed at the Century Park Disc Golf course.
 - Repairs were completed on the Downtown bollard.
 - Preparations were completed on Stevens Field for American Legion games and district tournaments as well as Country Club Road Park and Century Park baseball fields for all-star baseball practices.
 - Aerification of City Park, City Stadium, South Suber Road soccer fields and Victor Field were completed. Modern Turf will follow up with a verticutting and topdressing of South Suber Road Park on July 26. Verticutting at City Stadium and Victor Field will be completed and staff will topdress them in-house.
 - Prepared Century Park fields for 8U, 11U and 12U academy tryouts and Country Club Road Park soccer field for academy soccer summer workouts.

Events Division

- Division Staff
 - The Greer Farmers Market continued its season on Tuesdays at Greer City Park. The fan favorite Peach Cook-Off was held on July 20. The weekly market has hosted over 40 vendors from the upstate each week and will conclude on September 21.
 - The Events Division Moonlight Movies series has continued to bring in great crowds this season. Pre-show activities include free crafts, balloon twisters, a wildlife rescue, and magic shows. Food is provided by Abbott’s Frozen Custard. Series sponsor, T-Mobile, provided a free bag of popcorn to attendees at each movie.

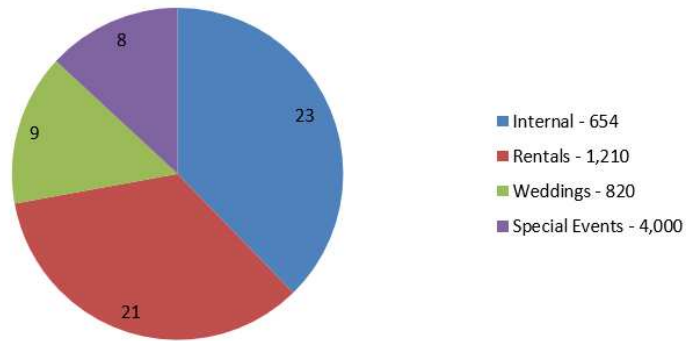
★★★★★ 3 weeks ago NEW

Very pretty park. My company hosted a professional development in City Hall, and at lunchtime we were able to go outside and relax in the park on a sunny day. It has a nice fountain, benches, and large swings facing the fountain in a shaded area.

★★★★★ a month ago

The Canon Centre is an incredible venue, showed my brides wedding guests an engagement film we had crafted the week before using their projector and display - everyone was blown away. It has tons of room for guest, its air-conditioned with a kitchen and it has private rooms for your bride and groom.

Rentals



<u>Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Current Projects</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Market – May 4 – September 21 (Thursdays – City Park) • Summer Camp – June 7 - August 6 (Needmore Recreation Center and Victor Gym) • Moonlight Movies – June 10 – August 5 (Thursdays – City Park) • School House Rock Live! Jr – August 6-8 & 13-15 (Center for the Arts) • Tunes in the Park (Greer Idol during band breaks) – August 21 (City Park) • Renaissance Fair – September 11 (City Park) • Clay Classes Begin – September 13 (Center for the Arts) • Get Your Arts On! Arts Fair – September 18 (Center for the Arts) • October Fest – September 18 (Downtown Greer) • Railfest – September 25 (City Park) • Disney’s Descendants – October 22-24 & 29-31 (Cannon Centre) • Open House for Classes – August 24 (Center for the Arts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benson Automotive Kids Planet Renovation • Greer Golf Grass Sprigging Project • H.R. Turner Field and Victor Park Restroom Facilities • Disc Golf Re-Design • Cannon Centre Deck 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.