



Parks & Recreation Department August 2021 Report



Greer Children's Theater School House of Rock Live! Jr.

"Creating Community Through People, Parks, & Programs"

Department Personnel Update

- We welcomed 2 new full time employees to the department in August. Michael Sapp, Athletics Coordinator, and Denise Swearington, Administrative Clerk. We are so happy to have them join our team!
- We currently have two (part-time) Groundskeeper positions open. Both are for weekend work, one at City Park and the other at Kids Planet.

Current/Ongoing Projects

Benson Automotive Kids Planet

- On August 25, department staff participated in a final walkthrough with Cunningham Associates, our playground equipment provider. Staff from Blue Water Civil Engineering were also present. Remaining projects for the playground include irrigation installation, adding new picnic tables and landscaping.

Cannon Centre Deck Renovations

- City staff met with Bill Rettew, Rettew Engineering, on August 18, to review deck renovation options. The anticipated time frame for advertising for bids will be early October.

H.R. Turner Park

- Restroom footings and foundation blockwork, rough-in plumbing, concrete floor, concrete block walls and roof construction were completed.

Greer Golf

- On August 5, staff met with Jeff Lawrence, Golf Architect, to plan a ‘grass remediation plan’ that will introduce natural areas to the course in an effort to reduce weekly maintenance.
- Staff met with Gable Stubbs, SGA Associates Principal Architect, at Greer Golf on August 17 to review possible upgrades to the clubhouse and pool area.
- The front 9 sprigging project progressed well during the month. Holes 1, 7 and 9 required a second round of sprigs application in areas missed by the mechanical planter. Areas are being evaluated for the need to be sodded in the fall to prevent erosion over the winter months.
- Staff met with the First Tee of Greenville on August 19 to discuss upcoming scheduling for programs, which will resume in the spring of 2022.
- Communicating Results Group began planning a photo shoot for the new website that includes staff photos, facility photos and action photos. They are currently managing Google and Yelp reviews and all social media. They have arranged for Greer Golf to be a part of “Golf Now”. This will add the course to the popular app and provide for exposure to golfers that may not know about the course.

Department Trainings

- Athletic Supervisor attended SC LEAD training on August 12-13 (North Augusta).
- Staff continued with on-line MASC training.

Department Highlights

- “Tournament of the Century”, PDGA sanctioned disc golf tournament, was held at Century Park on August 1. This was the first tournament at Century Park following the upgrades made to the course. Ninety (90) players participated.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has requested a long-term lease renewal with the Greenville County School District for use of the Riverside Middle School baseball/softball/football fields. It will be presented to the school board in October.
- On August 24, City Council approved the single source purchase of custom-made holiday pole decorations from Downtown Decorations, Incorporated. The decorations should be received in early November.

Division Highlights

Athletics

- Foothills Soccer Club Greer
 - Facilitated FSCG recreational soccer drafts for all age divisions. Practices began on August 16 and games will take place September 13 through mid-October at South Suber Road Park. All age divisions are at maximum capacity for the fall season. The FSCG Academy teams continue to practice at Country Club Road Park and South Suber Road Park on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. These four teams compete with South Carolina Youth Soccer Association. Games will take place August through November throughout the state.
- Greer Baseball Club Academy Division
 - Facilitated Greer Baseball Club recreational division and academy division practices at Century Park, H.R. Turner Park, Riverside Middle School, Country Club Road Park, and Stevens Field. Practices and games for recreational teams take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning on September 7 through late October. Our academy division practices on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays nights. Teams participate in tournaments throughout the state of South Carolina and the southeast.

- Girls Softball
 - Facilitated practices at Victor Park and H.R. Turner Park Monday through Saturday. All girls' softball teams compete within the Spartanburg County League with games occurring mostly at Victor Park and Tyger River Park located in Duncan, SC. League games will begin in early September.
- Rugby
 - We continue preparation and planning for Rugby. The department recently purchased rugby uprights in preparation for our club season and Christmas 7s Rugby Tournament at Country Club Road Park. Our division is also hosting the Greenville Griffins Rugby Club in September and October for home matches at H.R. Turner Park Rugby Field.
- Adult Baseball League
 - Completed Adult Baseball League team registration and schedules. League play is every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening at Stevens Field. League is designed to keep older players competing in the game they love. Teams must be comprised of players 30 and over with 2 age exceptions.
- Tournaments
 - Hosted the Greer Police Department Annual Benefit Softball Tournament at Century Park on August 28-29. Each year the Greer Police Department utilizes Century Park to raise funds for families of fallen police officers. We enjoyed seeing all of the upstate police departments competing at Century Park!
- Flag Football
 - Facilitated NFL Flag Football practices at Country Club Road Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Flag football is at maximum capacity in all age divisions. Games will begin on September 7 and continue through mid-October.
- Tackle Football
 - Facilitated practices at City Stadium and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Games are scheduled to begin on September 7 through late October. The 8U, 10U, and 12U teams will once again compete in the Golden Strip League with Mauldin Parks and Recreation, Simpsonville Parks and Recreation, and Fountain Inn Parks and Recreation. Tackle Football grew in numbers from the prior year.
- Cheerleading
 - Facilitated Cheer for Greer practices at Greer City Stadium and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. We are currently at maximum capacity for our cheerleading program. Cheer squads participate in either flag or tackle divisions.
- Fall Registration
 - Fall registration for youth baseball, flag football, soccer, and girls' softball concluded with maximum capacity in all sports.

Recreation

- Programs
 - Senior Action
 - Moved back to the Needmore Recreation Center after summer camps concluded in mid-August. Senior Action continued to meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to host light exercising, bingo, lunch pick up and other programs.
 - Summer Camps
 - Concluded on August 6 at Camp Greer (Victor Gym) and Camp Needmore (Needmore Recreation Center). Camp Greer had 50 kids daily and Camp Needmore had 30 kids Monday – Friday 7:30am-6:00pm. Recreation Center's floors were professionally cleaned in preparation for after school programs.
 - After School
 - Our Afterschool program began at the Needmore Recreation Center on August 17. We have 10 kids enrolled in the program with one staff member on site every Monday – Friday from 2:30pm-6:00pm.
 - Creative Advancement Center held a parent registration night at Victor Gym on August 27.
 - Other Programs
 - JOAD Archery (30)
 - * Hosted the US Archery State Tourney with 65 archers competing at City Stadium on August 14.
 - Artifacts Club (20)
 - Cutlery Club (25)
 - Pickleball Clinics (117)
 - Open Play Pickleball (77)
 - Never Alone (25)
 - Recreation Center Rentals (5)
 - Benson Automotive Kids Planet Shelter Rentals (89)
 - Park Rental (1)

- Seniors Out and AROUND (SOAR)
 - SOAR met for bingo at City Hall on August 5 and at Victor Gym on August 19. We had an average of 29 seniors in attendance.
 - SOAR Line Dancing Classes were held on August 18 & 25. We had an average of 29 seniors in attendance each week.
 - The Walking Program met twice at Greer City Park. Our first walk was on August 10 with four walkers in attendance and then we met again on August 24 with five walkers attending that day. Our seniors love these morning walks at our beautiful park.
 - On August 17, we had an interest meeting regarding a Book Club beginning in September. Despite the terrible weather that day, we had five seniors brave the elements to attend. We are very excited about our first book selection, "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek".
 - We took a trip to Strawberry Hill on August 26 for breakfast at the café and shopping at the produce shed. We had 28 seniors join us for this fun day filled with good food and fellowship.
 - Our monthly Movie Day was held on August 30 with 19 SOAR members attending. Before watching the movie each month, we are allowing the seniors time to test out our Virtual Reality (VR) headset. The seniors love the opportunity to travel to far off places from the comfort of their chairs. After the VR sessions, we enjoyed watching the Comedy/Romance "Queen Bees".
 - The average attendance for the month was 17 seniors.

Cultural Arts

- Classes
 - On August 24, the Center for the Arts held an Open House for fall classes with approximately 15 visitors.
 - Gary Huntoon, Clay Teacher, held a workshop for Christmas Ornament making on August 28. The second class will be held in September.
 - Bhavisha Patel, held a mandala workshop on August 31, the class was at full capacity with five students.
- Events
 - Auditions for Disney's Descendants took place at the Center for the Arts on August 9, 10 and 13. A parent/cast meeting was held on August 16. A combination of 28 adults and teenagers were cast. Rehearsals will be held at the Center for the Arts until Labor Day and then we will move to the Tryon Recreation Center to use set pieces. Staff met with the Costume Designer, Jenny Bennett on August 24.
 - A new Art Exhibit was hung at the Center for the Arts on August 12. It is a big show with big pieces of art by Tom Gardner. The reception will be held September 14.
 - A new photography exhibit by Blaine Owens was hung at City Hall on August 13.
 - The Greer Children's Theatre performed School House Rock Live! Jr. at the Center for the Arts on August 13, 14 and 15 with 50% capacity. The stage was struck and taken back to the Tryon Recreation Center.
 - The final Tunes in the Park was held on August 21. The Rhythm City Band performed and the finals for Greer Idol were held. Olivia Frazier won Greer Idol Jr. and Ashlyn Blakely won Greer Idol. The event was very well attended and the majority of the crowd stayed until the end.
 - The Friends of Lake Robinson collected artwork at the Center for the Arts for their show on August 26 and 27. The show will be hung at City Hall the end of September.

Grounds Maintenance

- Division Staff
 - Prepared Center for the Arts, BP Edwards and Greentown Parks for the National Night Out held by the Greer Police Department.
 - Received the TurfTank Robot athletic field painter and will begin utilizing it for the fall sports season.
 - Continued applying plant growth regulator to South Suber Road soccer fields, City Stadium and Victor Field.
 - Prepared BP Edwards for the Greer Police Department Book Bag Give-Away and South Suber Road Park for state soccer games.
 - Preparations were completed at the Downtown Urban Park for the WSPA ZipTrip.

Events Division

- Division Staff
 - The Greer Farmers Market continued its season with their Tuesday's in Greer Farmers Market at Greer City Park. The market saw its largest crowd on August 24 for the annual Apple Fest and Cook-off that filled Greer City Park with apples, cider, and apple donuts! 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 concluded its 2021 season on August 5 with Toy Story 4. Pre-show activities included free crafts, balloon twisters, a wildlife rescue, and magic shows. Food was provided by Abbott's Frozen Custard. Each week attendees were offered a free bag of popcorn provided by series sponsor T-Mobile.

- The 3rd Food Truck Rollout was held on August 19 with music performed by Trade Street Union. A total of five local food trucks were available and beer was available for purchase from Greer Relief. Attendees brought chairs and blankets to enjoy a beautiful night in Greer City Park.

Reviews:

Greer City Park is great, I love it! And so did my boys when they were little, and now my grandbabies 😊. Beautiful place!!

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.



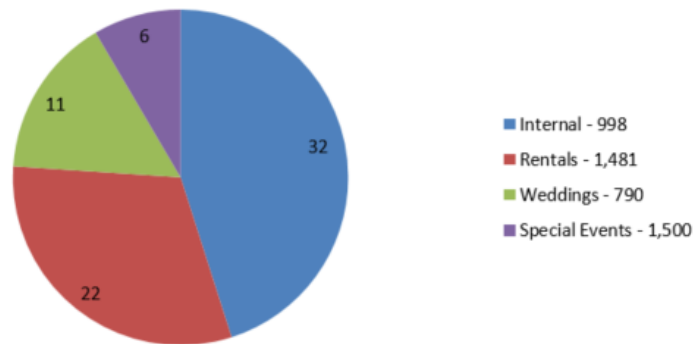
Nice place to walk.

There was a wedding going on so we sat quietly on a bench and witnessed.

As part of the overall Greer Park --- it's a good experience.

The Events Division hosted 71 events, at which 4,769 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

Rentals



<u>Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Current Projects</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Market – May 4 – September 21 (Thursdays – City Park) • Clay Classes Begin – September 13 (Center for the Arts) • Railfest – September 25 (City Park) • Arts and Eats – October 1 – 2 (Downtown) • Foothills Philharmonic – October 8 (Cannon Centre) • Food Truck Rollout – October 14 (City Park) • Artisan Maker’s Market – October 16 (City Park) • Disney’s Descendants – October 22-24 & 29-31 (Cannon Centre) • Gingerbread House Display – November 30 & December 4 (Center for the Arts) • Christmas Tree Lighting – December 3 (City Park) • Breakfast with Santa – December 4 (Cannon Centre) • Greer Christmas Parade – December 5 (Downtown) 	<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 • H.R. Turner Rugby Phase 1 • Christmas Decorations Installation

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.