



Parks & Recreation Department September 2021 Report



Upstate Renaissance Faire & Medieval Market

"Creating Community Through People, Parks, & Programs"

Department Personnel Update

- We currently have two (fulltime) Groundskeeper I positions and two (part-time) Groundskeeper positions open. Both part-time positions are for weekend work, one at City Park/Downtown and the other at Kids Planet.

Current/Ongoing Projects

Benson Automotive Kids Planet

- Irrigation has been installed and remaining projects for the playground include adding new picnic tables and landscaping.

Center for the Arts

- RSI installed a new HVAC system in the stage area at the Center for the Arts on September 8 and 9.

H.R. Turner Park

- The new restroom facility at H.R. Turner Park was completed and passed inspection by the SCPRT Grants Manager on September 30. Paperwork is being finalized with the National Park Service in regards to the LWCF grant that was used towards this facility.
- A Change of Use Letter has been submitted to Justin Hancock, SCPRT Director of Recreation, Grants and Policy, for the renovation of H.R. Turner Park. LWCF grants originating in the 1990's prohibit any renovation of property tied to these monies without written permission from SCPRT or the National Park Service. Once permission is given, we may proceed with making renovations for a rugby field, lighting, parking lot, etc.
- Staff are working with Dan Dodd, Dodd Studios, Charlotte, NC, in regards to the renovation of H.R. Turner Park. We anticipate advertising for bids mid to late October.

Greer Golf

- The overhead door for the restaurant kitchen window was installed on September 9.
- Communicating Results Group completed a photo shoot for the course and staff on September 24.
- Staff met with Architect Jeff Lawrence and Mills Grant with New Life Sod, to discuss installing sod to cover areas affected by storm water runoff on holes #1, #7 and #9. Installation began on September 28.
- Front 9 holes will re-open to the public on October 1, with Hole #7 played as a par 3 and Hole #9 played as a par 4.
- Staff met with Gable Stubbs, SGA Associates Principal Architect, at Greer Golf, on September 28, to continue discussions regarding the redesign of the clubhouse and pool area.

Department Trainings

- Robin Byouk and Sara Odom attended a Zoom training held by the South Carolina Theatre Association on September 15. Theaters from around the state attended and discussed what Covid Protocols will be in place for the fall and shared ideas to put in use during this timeframe.
- Cory Holtzclaw attended SC LEAD training on September 10-11 (Florence).
- Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the NRPA National Congress virtually September 21-23. The conference was held in Nashville, TN, with many restrictions and concerns due to COVID.
- Justin Miller participated in an NRPA webinar titled "Solving Pickleball Problems" on September 23.
- On September 23, Department Management Team members attended 800MhZ Radio Operations training conducted by Josh Holzheimer from the Fire Department. This was in preparation for the upcoming Greer Arts and Eats Festival, October 1-2.
- Staff continued with on-line MASC training.

Department Highlights

- On September 7, staff presented a department overview to the Greer Station Association Board of Advisors.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has renewed a short-term lease agreement with the Greenville County School District for use of the Riverside Middle School baseball/softball/football fields.
- Department staff continue to meet and plan for an upcoming office expansion of Conference Room 200 on the second floor at City Hall. The Events Division staff is preparing to move from the first floor into the newly expanded area to better serve renters using the Event Halls. Our relocating staff members from the first floor will allow the Finance Department to occupy our current offices.

Division Highlights

Athletics

- Foothills Soccer Club Greer
 - Facilitated recreational soccer practices and games at South Suber Road Park. Games began on September 13 and will continue through late October. 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. Club teams compete with South Carolina Youth Soccer Association. Games will take place August through November at South Suber Road Park, Country Club Road Park, and throughout the state.

- Greer Baseball Club Academy Division
 - Facilitated recreational games at Century Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights for 8U, 10U, and 12U teams. Academy teams practiced at Century Park and Stevens Field on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. These teams participate in tournaments throughout the state of South Carolina, and regionally in Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, and North Carolina.
- Girls Softball
 - Facilitated games at Victor Park on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Greer Parks and Recreation Softball continues to be one of the largest programs in the Spartanburg County League. Teams utilize Victor Park for games or practices seven days a week.
- Rugby
 - On September 11, completed 2021 Fall Youth Rugby Camp at H.R. Turner Field with Coach Warren Taylor and his staff. The camp introduced prospective players to the sport. Campers ages 5 through 16 participated in the 3-hour session.
- Adult Baseball League
 - Facilitated league games at Stevens Field on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. Games began in September and will continue through early November.
- Flag Football
 - Facilitated 7 v 7 games at Country Club Road Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Flag football is at maximum capacity in all age divisions. Games started on September 7 and will be completed in mid-October.
- Tackle Football
 - Facilitated games at City Stadium on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Games will continue through late October and conclude with playoffs. Practice takes place on Monday & Wednesday nights at Country Club Road Park. All teams compete in the Golden Strip League with Mauldin, Simpsonville, and Fountain Inn Parks and Recreation Departments.
- Cheerleading
 - Facilitated games at Greer City Stadium and Country Club Road Park on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. The cheerleading program reached maximum capacity this season. Cheerleaders now have the option to cheer for tackle and flag football teams. Cheer for Greer was invited to perform at halftime of the ACC Championship game. Practices for that event begin October 21 at Victor Gym.
- Rentals
 - Greenville Griffins Rugby team utilized H.R. Turner field and South Carolina Home School League (SCHSL) utilized City Stadium for their independent high school tackle football program.
- Tournaments
 - Invitations were sent to approximately 30 Rugby programs for our Christmas 7s tournament at Country Club Road Park. The Christmas 7s tournament will host a high school girls division, high school boys division, and a college division. The 2-day event will combine tournament play with elite level rugby players looking to play at the next level.

Recreation

- Programs
 - Senior Action
 - Continued meeting at the Needmore Recreation Center on Mondays-Fridays to host exercising, bingo, programs and to enjoy a hot lunch.
 - After School
 - Continued at the Needmore Recreation Center. Ten children are enrolled in the program with one staff member on site every Monday – Friday from 2:30pm-6:00pm.
 - Creative Advancement began on September 7 at Victor Gym. They meet Monday – Friday with just over 30 participants.
 - Other Programs
 - JOAD Archery (30)
 - Artifacts Club (20)
 - Cutlery Club (25)
 - Pickleball Clinics (91)
 - Open Play Pickleball (58)
 - Never Alone (25)
 - Recreation Center Rentals (2)
 - Benson Automotive Kids Planet Shelter Rentals (120)
 - Mobile Stage (1)

- Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR)
 - Line Dancing classes were held on September 1, 8, 22 and 29. An average of 21 seniors were in attendance each week.
 - Met for BINGO on September 2 & 30. An average of 23 seniors were in attendance.
 - The Walking Program met for both walks at Greer City Park. On September 7 seven walkers were in attendance and on September 28 eight walkers attended.
 - Twenty-four members attended “Chautauqua: History Comes Alive” at the Mauldin Cultural Center Amphitheater on September 9. This was a historical performance about the actress and inventor Hedy Lamarr. After the show, lunch at the “Low Country Shrimper” was enjoyed by all.
 - Monthly Movie Day was held on September 13 with 14 members attending. Before watching the movie each month, the seniors have time to test out the VR headset. They love the opportunity to travel to far off places from the comfort of their chairs. After the VR sessions, we enjoyed watching the drama, “Charming the Hearts of Men”.
 - The first Book Club meeting was held on September 21 at Victor Gym. Despite the inclement weather, five seniors were in attendance to discuss the book, “The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek”.
 - The average attendance for the month was 15 seniors.

Cultural Arts

- Classes
 - Gary Huntoon, Clay Teacher, continued clay classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Center for the Arts. Robin Byouk and Gary Huntoon visited the Clay King (clay supplier) and the Spartanburg Art Museum on September 22 to view their clay program and see their clay studio.
 - Interviews were conducted for instructors to teach piano classes and a guided painting workshop. Both classes are scheduled to begin in December and January.
- Events
 - The cast of Descendants began rehearsing at the Center for the Arts on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights and Saturdays. They relocated rehearsals to the Tryon Recreation Center on September 11.
 - Greer Children’s Theater started building the set for Descendants on September 11 at the Tryon Recreation Center.
 - On September 18, Get Your Art On! Arts Fair was held at the Center for the Arts from 10:00am-2:00pm. There were 14 art vendors, two food trucks and multiple entertainers on the stage. The vendors were satisfied with their sales even though attendance was low with approximately 100 people.
 - A new art exhibit, the Friends of Lake Robinson Annual Photography, was hung on September 24 and will remain on display for the month of October.
 - A small portion of the cast of Godspell Jr met at the Center for the Arts, on September 24, to view a recording of the play and to share some memories.
 - On September 29, Edwin Hutchison and his crew installed the top part of the Little Library Tree Sculpture at the Center for the Arts on the walking path. The inside box for the library continues to be in progress.

Grounds Maintenance

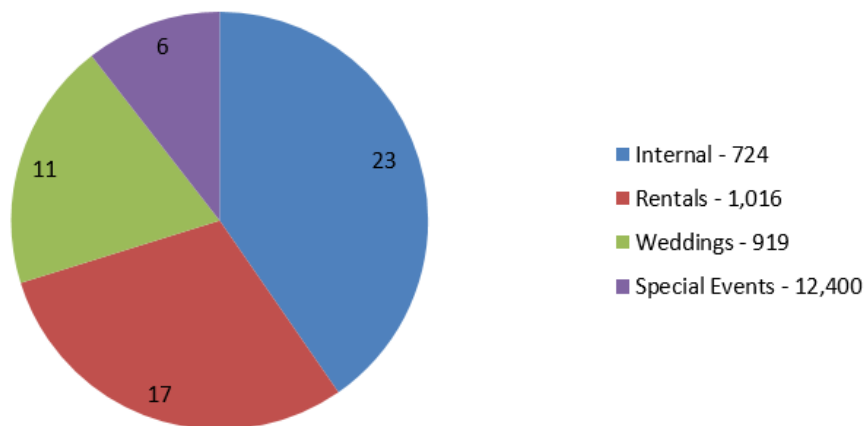
- Division Staff
 - Prepared H.R. Turner Park field for rugby camp on September 11 and a rugby match on September 18.
 - Prepared City Stadium for the SCHSL football game on September 17.
 - Preparations began for games at South Suber Road Park for state soccer games, City Stadium, Stevens Field, Country Club Road Park and Century Park.
 - Installed the Get Your Art On! Arts Fair banner at Center for the Arts.
 - Continued applying plant growth regulator to South Suber Road Park soccer fields, City Stadium, Country Club Road Park fields 2 & 3 and Victor Field.
 - Prepared for and assisted with the Oktoberfest event, Arts and Eats Festival and the GSA Fashion Show in the Downtown Urban Park.
 - WP Law completed repairs on the irrigation pump station at Country Club Road Park.
 - Dreamscapes Landscaping, LLC will begin mulching the upper portion of City Park and Center for the Arts in October.
 - Overseeding of City Stadium, Country Club Road Park and South Suber Road Park fields 1 and 2 is scheduled later this fall.

Events Division

- Division Staff
 - The Greer Farmers Market wrapped up their market on September 14. Nineteen markets from May 4-September 14 saw over 9,000 visitors to City Park on Tuesdays, which is typically the slowest day of the week for downtown businesses. The market averaged over 30 vendors per week. This season set records in attendance and number of vendors. We are excited to see the continued growth of this event and positive impact it has for our downtown businesses.
 - With over 8,000 people in attendance, the Upstate Renaissance Faire and Medieval Market took over City Park on September 11 with over 60 vendors, live performances and demonstrations, and turkey legs. Over 1,500 turkey legs were sold! The Events Division assisted festival organizers in planning the festival by ensuring all policies and procedures were followed.
 - Railfest took place on September 25 from 10:00am-2:00pm in City Park. Children of all ages had the opportunity to visit eight different local train vendors. These included national model train associations, train museums, and safety information from Operation Lifesaver. Activities included free trackless train rides, face painting, balloon twisting and balloon twisting classes, caricatures, animals from Greenville Wildlife Rehab, and magical performances. Karl Lauber played over 40 different train songs throughout the day. Two food trucks and three dessert vendors provided lunch throughout the festival. It is estimated that over 3,000 people were in attendance.

The Events Division hosted 57 events, at which 15,059 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.

Rentals



<u>Upcoming Events</u>	<u>Current Projects</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disney’s Descendants – October 22-24 & 29-31 (Cannon Centre) • SCHSL Tackle Football – October 29 (City Stadium) • Handbell Ensemble – November 30 (Center for the Arts) • Gingerbread Jamboree – November 30 (Center for the Arts) • 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) • Christmas 7s Rugby Tournament & Combine – December 11 & 12 (Country Club Road Park) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benson Automotive Kids Planet Renovation • Greer Golf Grass Sprigging Project • H.R. Turner Restroom Facility • Victor Park Restroom Facility • Greer Golf Redesign Clubhouse & Pool Area • 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.