

City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

Monthly Report for August 2014



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

- ◆ Stevens Field was closed during August for renovations to the infield. New sod was installed to correct the infield drainage.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and the I. T. staff met with CPW staff regarding fiber optics for security at Stevens Field and City Stadium.
- ◆ Wilson Sports Turf completed the verticutting of both baseball fields at Country Club Road Park on August 6.
- ◆ The pond at City Park was drained and repairs were completed to the walls damaged by excessive rains on August 9.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson reviewed H.R. Turner Park demolition of building on August 21.
- ◆ Justin Miller continued meeting with the Wellness Committee to review the point system and health initiative as well as upcoming employee events.

Department Trainings

- ◆ Several staff members in the department attended the Drivers Improvement Training Program during August.
- ◆ Several staff members in the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training. The courses completed were Sleep and Your Health and Dealing with Intoxicated Individuals.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended a webinar on the software, Jam Logic, offered by Ver-Mac for a digital sign. The software offers GPS tracking of the sign, data collection and logging of traffic numbers, speeds, etc., allows the department to upload jpeg images (city logo, event logo, etc.), allows the department to change the message on the sign, and monitor battery power from a remote location via a cell phone.
- ◆ Justin Miller attended training through the American Heart Association on August 8 and is now certified as an instructor in CPR, First Aid and Automated External Defibrillators (AED).

Department Participation

- ◆ Parks and Recreation Department and Police Department staff joined members of the Needmore community for National Night Out on August 5 at the Needmore Community Center. Food, games and prizes were provided for the children while the community meeting was held. Approximately 150 people attended.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (SCRPA) Elm Branch State Directors meeting in Cayce, SC on August 7.
- ◆ Red Watson met with staff at the J. Harley Bonds Career Center regarding the possibility of upcoming carpentry/construction projects in which students receive credit for building needed items for the Parks and Recreation Department.
- ◆ The Livewell Greenville 2014 Park Hop Closing Ceremony was held at Greer City Park on August 13 from 4pm-7pm. The ceremony was a success, hundreds of people visited City Park. All participants/families from this summer's program (1,000 families) were invited to Greer City Park to collect their prizes for participating and to enjoy several activities. Livewell Greenville and all Greenville County Parks and Recreation Agencies hosted this program.



- ◆ Red Watson and Bruce Viehman attended an organization meeting for the Greer Relief BBQ on August 14.
- ◆ Justin Miller attended the Greer Chamber Development Council on August 19 to plan the upcoming year's programs for Leadership Greer and Jr. Leadership Greer.
- ◆ The Grounds Maintenance Division replaced plastic tissue dispensers with stainless steel units at South Suber Road Park. Repairs were made to the fountain at Victor Memorial/Veterans Park. Preparation of athletic fields for games and practices continues and neighborhood parks were mowed and trimmed on a rotational schedule.
- ◆ All Parks and Recreation Department staff attended the compensation & classification study meetings on August 21. Some staff members were also chosen and attended the compensation focus group meetings.
- ◆ On August 22, Ann Cunningham joined other department directors in participating in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge at City Park.
- ◆ Support was provided for the Greer Relief Society Relief BBQ on August 22-23.
- ◆ On August 27, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the Greenville County Directors Meeting at the Greenville County Parks and Recreation Department.

Department Highlights

- ◆ Ann Cunningham discussed with Sally Wills and Margaret Stevens from Livewell Greenville the National League of Cities (NLC) Meal Program for the Needmore Summer Camp and After School programs.

- ◆ Ann Cunningham has begun contacting downtown building owners for approval to install or reinstall rooftop lighting. This project will enhance the downtown area for the Christmas season and large local festivals.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Bruce Viehman continue to work towards the installation of a drinking fountain at Greentown Park. Other park improvements include stationary benches, swing benches, and fencing.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Bill Mork met to discuss the bat issues at the Cannon Centre.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the Community Foundation Meeting on August 28 in Greenville regarding grants.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department hosted the Trade Street Neighborhood Association meeting at the Victor Park Social Hall on August 28.
- ◆ Clemson University intern, Katy Fry, concluded her internship with the Parks and Recreation Department on August 8.
- ◆ The Athletics Division held draft nights for the Foothills Soccer Club of Greer (FSCG), Upstate Jackets Youth Football, Cheer for Greer, Greer Baseball Club (GBC) and girls softball. Practices were facilitated at Country Club Road Park, City Stadium, H. R. Turner Park, Century Park, Victor Park, J. Harley Bonds and South Suber Road Park.
- ◆ All paperwork was submitted to South Carolina Youth Soccer Association for eligibility and player cards were obtained for academy teams. Soccer teams began playing tournaments and statewide games. Matches were hosted at South Suber Road Park which included teams from Raleigh, NC, Easley and Rock Hill.
- ◆ Equipment for the youth fall sports leagues was purchased and distributed to the coaches. Jerseys were ordered and distributed to all participants in the FSCG, Upstate Jackets, Cheer for Greer and GBC.



- ◆ The Athletic Division hosted the Police Department's softball tournament at Century Park on August 22 and 23.
- ◆ The summer adult basketball league completed a 10 game regular season and a tournament held at Victor Gym on August 26 and 28.

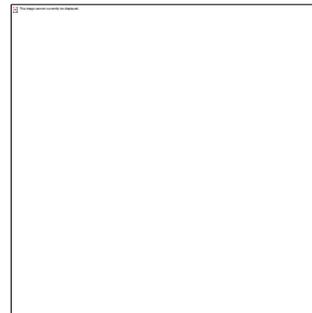
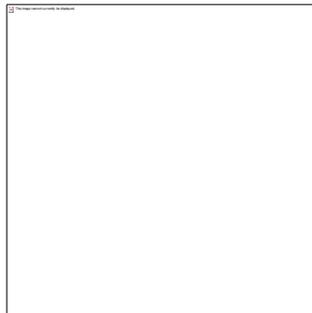


- ◆ The fall adult softball league registration was completed and a 10 game regular season started at Century Park on August 27.

- ◆ The Greer Cultural Arts Council (GCAC) completed the Camp ARK (Arts Reaching Kids) Theatre Camp and held 4 performances of "Into the Woods Jr" at the Cannon Centre on August 15, 16, 22 and 23. Attendance at all shows was fantastic; the second weekend every chair at the Cannon Centre was utilized. The performances were free to the public; donations were accepted, concessions were sold and grants from BMW and the Metropolitan Arts Council helped fund the camp.



- ◆ Tunes in the Park were rained out for the final two weeks and were held inside the Events Halls at City Hall on August 8. Keddy Mendoza won the Greer Idol Teen and Josh Jordan won the Greer Idol competition. One final Tunes in the Park will be held on September 19 featuring Rock and Roll Reunion from 7pm-8pm and 9pm-10pm. During the intermission, there will be a Greer Idol Contestant Reunion. There are currently 14 performers scheduled.



- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) participated in a lunch bunch meeting at Mutts BBQ in Greer. They traveled to the Greenville's Farmer Market and the South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson. SOAR continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during August was 11.
- ◆ Summer Camp programs at the Needmore Community Center and the Victor Gym wrapped up with an end of summer party at the Events Halls at City Hall. The campers were treated to pizza, cupcakes, a DJ, and a photo booth! Each camper was given a print out of their pictures each time they exited the photo booth. The campers broke the record for number of pictures taken during an event. The Summer Camp staff got in on the action; check out their pictures below!



- ◆ The Events Division hosted 47 events, at which over 6,315 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ On August 7, the Moonlight Movies Series ended with the Cannon Centre Cinema showing of “Thor: The Dark World”. Guests enjoyed free popcorn, food trucks, tailgate games and more!
- ◆ The Events Division hosted the Human Resources Department’s Evergreen Solutions Job Assessment Tool Survey orientations and focus groups on August 21 and 22 at Greer City Hall.
- ◆ On August 29, the City of Greer hosted the annual Black History Gala at the Cannon Centre. Participants enjoyed live music, a tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. and a fashion show.



- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2014 events such as: Halloween Hoopla and the Thanksgiving Art Show.



“Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs”