



Charleston County News Release

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Charleston County Hosts 2011 Earth Day Festival on April 16

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Park Circle in North Charleston

[Charleston County's Environmental Management Department](#) will host the [2011 Earth Day Festival](#) on Saturday, April 16, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Park Circle in North Charleston.

The County's 12th annual Earth Day Festival is a celebration of Charleston County's environmental community. The festival provides educational opportunities highlighting Charleston County's environmental programs in an entertaining atmosphere.

"The Earth Day Festival is a very important event for us," said Mike Kenerley, Charleston County's Environmental Management Recycling Programs Manager. "We are very excited about this opportunity to increase environmental awareness in our community with fun, family-oriented activities."

Charleston County's Earth Day Festival has attracted as many as 8,000 people to the free event each year. All participants are asked to commit to reducing waste. New this year will be several Resource Recycling Centers located throughout the park for recycling and composting waste generated at the event.

Charleston County's [Earth Day Art Contest](#) was held again this year. Students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade were asked to submit drawings on Earth Day subjects with the theme of "Do Your Part, Be Earth Smart." The winning artwork will be the theme of the festival and will be printed on the back of the volunteers' T-shirts, which are manufactured from recycled cotton. A Poetry Contest was also held for students in grades seven through 12, and the winner will have the opportunity to read his/her poem at the festival.

Schedule of Events:

- **11 a.m.** Opening remarks by [Charleston County Council](#) / Representatives in attendance
- **11:15 a.m.** On-site beautification project
- **11:30 a.m.** Awards & recognition of Earth Day Art Contest and Poetry Contest winners from Charleston County Schools, and recognition of festival volunteers
- **12 p.m.** Live performance by Djole African Dance & Drum Company
- **1 p.m.** "Celebrating a Green America" by speaker Dr. Shannon Baxter-Clemmons, Ph.D., Executive Director of the S.C. Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Alliance
- **2 p.m.** Swing, bluegrass, and jazz music from Roger Bellow & the Drifting Troubadours

Other Highlights of the 2011 Earth Day Festival:

- Over 50 environmental activities and educational displays on alternative energy, conservation, local and organic agriculture, animals and habitat preservation, litter, water and air quality, seedlings, recycling and composting
- Charleston County's new recycling trucks with recycling bins available for County residents
- Recycling tent with information, giveaways and prizes
- Home compost information, free compost samples, and [Green Cone Solar Compost Digesters](#) for sale at a discounted price of \$89.23
- Craft-making with recycled materials by [The Yo Art Project](#)
- [Charleston County School District's](#) Starlab Planetarium
- Hands-on fun with [Mad Science](#) play stations

- Water buffalo by [Charleston Water Systems](#)
- Lego race car building and racing by [All About Learning](#)
- Local food vendors offering classic festival fare plus some vegetarian options, and operating greener with recyclable or compostable serving ware
- Plus a whole day of fun activities, prize drawings, contests, and interactive performances by Party on Wheels Entertainment!

Charleston County's Environmental Management Department thanks their contributors:

- Charleston County Government
- City of North Charleston
- North Charleston Recreation Department
- S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
- The Post and Courier

For more information on recycling or the Earth Day Festival, visit recycle.charlestoncounty.org or call (843) 720-7111.

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for news, services and up-to-date information relating to Charleston County Government.