



Charleston County News Release

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Charleston County Hosts 2013 Earth Day Festival on April 20

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Riverfront Park in North Charleston

[Charleston County's Environmental Management Department](#) invites citizens to join in celebrating Earth Day during the [2013 Earth Day Festival](#) on Saturday, April 20. The free event will be held from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Riverfront Park on the former Naval Base in North Charleston.

The 14th Annual Earth Day Festival is a celebration of Charleston County's environmental community. The festival provides hands-on educational opportunities for all ages, and highlights the County's environmental programs.

"Our annual Earth Day Festival provides an ideal opportunity for Lowcountry residents to learn how they can make a difference in our community at home, work and play," said Carolyn Carusos, Charleston County Environmental Management Department's Recycling Programs Manager. "Riverfront Park offers a beautiful waterfront setting to enjoy the diverse, fun and family-oriented activities."

Charleston County's Earth Day Festival attracts as many as 8,000 people each year. All participants are asked to commit to reducing waste at the event. Resource Recovery Centers will be strategically located throughout the park to collect recyclable materials and organic waste generated during the festival.

[Charleston County's Annual Earth Day Art Contest](#) was held again this year, and students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade submitted drawings for the theme: "One Earth, One Future." The winning artwork will be featured at the event and will be printed on the back of all festival T-shirts.

April 20 Earth Day Festival Schedule of Events:

- **11 a.m.:** Event kickoff with [Military Magnet Academy's](#) Marching Band
- **11:15 a.m.:**
 - Opening remarks by attending [Charleston County Council](#) members
 - Awards and recognition of the [Annual Earth Day Art Contest](#) winners
 - Recognition of festival volunteers
- **11:30 a.m.:** Live performance by local step team [Gentlemen of Duty & Distinction Service Brotherhood](#)
- **11:45 p.m.:** Live musical performance by members of the [Blue Dogs](#), a band from Charleston
- **12:45 p.m.:** Birds of prey demonstration by Stephen Schabel with [The Avian Conservation Center](#)
- **1:15 p.m.:** [Mad Science](#) demonstration
- **1:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [Professor Bottleneck & Harmonica Frank](#), a German acoustic duo specializing in blues, jazz and swing with an environmental twist
- **2:00 p.m.:** [Goodwill](#) Fashion Show
- **2:15 p.m.:** Zumba with Prisca Denton
- **2:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [The Bluestone Ramblers](#), a South Carolina bluegrass band
- **3:00 p.m.:** Live reptile demonstration by [Kiawah Island Nature Center](#)
- **3:30 p.m.:** Storytelling by [Hawk Hurst](#)

[Other Highlights of the 2013 Earth Day Festival:](#)

- Over 60 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
- FREE shredding services (located in the parking lot)
- Collection of electronic waste, such as old TVs and computers, for recycling (located in the parking lot). Bring old/unwanted electronic items to be recycled and avoid these items being disposed of in the landfill.
- Goodwill donation center (located in the parking lot)
- Composting Awareness Center, a focal point tent emphasizing “Are you in the Loop?” where attendees can learn about the composting cycle. Guests will receive home composting information, commercial food waste information and free compost samples.
- Hands-on fun with [Mad Science](#) play stations
- Water buffalo by [Charleston Water Systems](#)
- Nature walks with a local naturalist
- [Pet Helpers](#) will be on site providing information on animal rescue and adoptable animals
- Local food vendors and food trucks offering classic festival fare plus some vegetarian options
- Returning Trash-to-Treasure guest, [The Yo Art Project](#), to assist with craft-making using recycled materials
- [Charleston County’s Environmental Management Department](#) staff will:
 - Provide reusable bag giveaways for the first 500 attendees
 - Feature demonstrations showing the new single stream recycling truck
 - Host a recycling tent with information, giveaways and prizes
- Plus a whole day of fun activities, prize drawings, contests and interactive live performances

Charleston County’s Environmental Management Department thanks their contributors:

- [City of North Charleston](#)
- [S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control](#)

For more information on recycling or the [2013 Earth Day Festival](#), visit recycle.charlestoncounty.org or call (843) 720-7111.

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org
- Follow us on Twitter:
 - Main County account: <https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov>
 - Traffic and road project info. only: www.twitter.com/ccroadwise
- Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753>
 - *Emergency Management Department*: <http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo>
 - *Consolidated 9-1-1 Center’s Public Education Program*: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Consolidated-9-1-1-Center-Public-Education-Program/186965438015227>
 - *Board of Elections and Voter Registration*: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Board-of-Elections-and-Voter-Registration/103895809694986>
- See us on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov>
- Watch County Council meetings online <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/charleston-county-government>



- written by Jennie Flinn -