

# News Release



April 16, 2014  
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## Charleston County Hosts 2014 Earth Day Festival on April 26

*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 [2014 Earth Day Festival](#) on Saturday, April 26. 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 excellent opportunity to increase environmental awareness in our community with fun, family-oriented activities," said [Charleston County's Solid Waste Committee Chair and County Councilwoman Anna Johnson](#). "We encourage Lowcountry residents to come out to beautiful Riverfront Park to learn how they can make a difference in our community while at home, work and play."

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: "Earth to Charleston..." The winning artwork will be featured at the event and will be printed on the back of all festival T-shirts.

### April 26 Earth Day Festival Schedule of Events:

- **11:15 a.m.:** Event kickoff with [Military Magnet Academy's](#) Marching Band
- **11:30 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
- **11:40 a.m.:** Live musical performance by South Carolina bluegrass band [The Bluestone Ramblers](#)
- **12 p.m.:**
  - Introduction of new Charleston County Environmental Management mascot
  - Remarks by attending [Charleston County Council](#) members
- **12:10 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [The Bluestone Ramblers](#), a South Carolina bluegrass band
- **12:30 p.m.:** Birds of prey demonstration by Stephen Schabel with [The Avian Conservation Center](#)
- **1:05 p.m.:**
  - Greening Schools Awards presentation with [Charleston County School District \(CCSD\)](#)
  - Remarks by [Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission \(CCPRC\)](#)
- **1:15 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [Shrimp City Slim](#), piano/vocals specializing in Lowcountry blues and original songs with an environmental twist
- **1:45 p.m.:**

- Visionary Images Fashion Show
- [Goodwill](#) Fashion Show
- **2:10 p.m.:** Zumba with Diane Betz
- **2:35 p.m.:** [Mad Science](#) demonstration
- **3:00 p.m.:** Live reptile demonstration by the [Edisto Island Serpentarium](#)
- **3:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [R.B. Stall High School](#) Steel Drum Band

#### **Other Highlights of the 2014 Earth Day Festival:**

- Over 70 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
- Before you enter the festival, take advantage of these drop-offs in the parking lot:
  - FREE shredding services (located in the parking lot)
  - Collection of household hazardous waste, like old paint and pesticides
  - Collection of used tires
  - 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](#)
- [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
- Kids Zone with fun inflatables, interactive games, face painters, and much more.
- Plus a whole day of fun activities, prize drawings, contests and interactive live performances

#### **Charleston County’s Environmental Management Department thanks their partners:**

- [City of North Charleston](#)
- [S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control](#)
- [CCPRC](#)
- [CCSD](#)
- [Food Waste Disposal](#)

For more information on recycling or the [2014 Earth Day Festival](#), visit [earthday.charlestoncounty.org](http://earthday.charlestoncounty.org) or call (843) 720-7111.

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

- Visit our website: [www.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.charlestoncounty.org)
- Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov>
- Like us on Facebook (main County site): <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753>
  - *Board of Elections and Voter Registration:* <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Board-of-Elections-and-Voter-Registration/103895809694986>
  - *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>
  - *Economic Development:* <https://www.facebook.com/CharlestonCountyED>
  - *Emergency Management Department:* <http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo>

- *Awendaw District Fire Department:*  
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- *Zoning and Planning Department:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Zoning-Planning-Department/549596221765813>
- *Sheriff's Office:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Sheriffs-Office/557956290949818>
- 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 -