



News Release

April 24, 2017
Release Number: 4137

Charleston County's 12th Annual Public Works Backhoe Rodeo Competition

WHEN: Wednesday, April 26

- 9:30 a.m. Media opportunity to participate
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: Preliminary competition
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lunch break
- 12:30 p.m.: Final competition for Backhoe and Excavator followed by awards

WHERE:

- Charleston County's Public Works Compound, 4350 Azalea Drive in North Charleston

BACKGROUND:

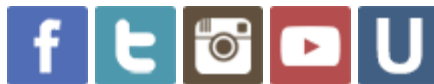
- Charleston County's Public Works Department will be holding its annual competition to demonstrate the skills of personnel in the operation of backhoes, while providing an opportunity to recognize exceptional performance.
- The competition consists of events that focus on operational requirements and emphasize safety. Competitors must use the equipment to maneuver materials through small, tight spaces under strict time limits.
- A backhoe is a large piece of road equipment used by public works staff to dig holes and trenches and to load trucks. Displaying "finesse" with a machine that stands eight feet tall and weighs nine tons requires some special skills.
- Finalists will go on to the American Public Works Association Regional Backhoe Rodeo in Georgetown on May 25 followed by the state competition in July.
- Charleston County Operator Matthew Bishop has won the American Public Works Association (APWA) state competition the last three years.

MEDIA CONTACT:

- Shawn Smetana, Charleston County Public Information Officer, (843) 958-4007 or ssmetana@charlestoncounty.org. Please RSVP if you wish to participate.

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- Prepared by the Charleston County Public Information Office -