



News Release

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See photo: http://charlestoncounty.org/backhoe_rodeo_winner.html

Charleston County Operator (Again!) Dominates at Backhoe Rodeo Showdown

Matthew Bishop wins again at the American Public Works Association's Lowcountry Branch Backhoe rodeo competition

Different year, but the same story at this year's [South Carolina Chapter of the American Public Works Association's \(APWA\) Regional Backhoe Rodeo](#). Matthew Bishop of Adams Run took first place for the second year in a row and will represent Charleston County at the state competition on Sunday, July 27, in Greenville County. Bishop won in the [9th Annual Charleston County Backhoe Rodeo Competition](#) in April, which put him on the list to compete in the regional event last week.

"It's always great to see our employees perform well in competitions," said [Charleston County Public Works](#) Director Jim Neal. "More importantly, it shows the citizens of Charleston County that we have some of the best people in the business working for them on a daily basis."

The regional competition was held Friday, May 23, in Georgetown County. There were 12 competitors representing backhoe operators in the South Carolina APWA Lowcountry Branch, which includes the municipalities and counties of Charleston, Georgetown, Berkeley, Dorchester, Colleton, Beaufort, Jasper and Hampton Counties.

The regional showdown consisted of events that focus on operational requirements and emphasize safety. Competitors on backhoes were challenged to maneuver materials through small, tight spaces under strict time limits. Judges were qualified in the observation of safe and proper backhoe operational techniques and are impartial to the participants.

A backhoe is a large piece of road equipment used by public works staff to dig holes and trenches and to load trucks.

For more information on Charleston County's Public Works Department, visit <http://charlestoncounty.org/Departments/PublicWorks/index.htm> or call (843) 202-7600.



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