

# News Release



April 20, 2015  
Release Number: 3899

## Charleston County's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Works Backhoe Rodeo Competition

**WHEN: Wednesday, April 22**

- **9:30 a.m. Media opportunity to participate**
- 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.: Preliminary competition and exhibition
- 12:30 p.m.: Lunch break
- **1 p.m.: Final competition 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, and then may even also have the chance to compete in the State Championship Rodeo this summer.
- Charleston County Operator Matthew Bishop won the state competition last year. Read about it [here](#).

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

- Shawn Smetana, Charleston County Public Information Officer, (843) 958-4007 or [ssmetana@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:ssmetana@charlestoncounty.org) no later than 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 22 if you wish to participate.

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- Written by the Charleston County Public Information Office -