



Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 3598

Date: May 7, 2013

See photos: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/newsimages/2013backhoerodeo1.htm>

Charleston County Celebrates 8th Annual Backhoe Rodeo

Three Public Works competitors placed to represent Charleston County in the May 23 American Public Works Association Regional Backhoe Rodeo

[Charleston County's Public Works Department](#) held their 8th annual Backhoe Rodeo last week. The competition determines who will represent Charleston County Public Works in the [South Carolina Chapter of the American Public Works Association's Regional Backhoe Rodeo](#), and showcases the skill and talent of the local operators.

Matthew Bishop of Adams Run took first place, with Marvin Green of Awendaw placing second and Kevin Brown of Ladson coming in third. The top three beat out 14 other [Charleston County's Public Works](#) competitors in six different skill events. They will now go on to compete in the [regional competition](#) in Georgetown on May 23.

The May 1 competition 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.

"Participation in the rodeo allows our employees a chance to display their skills and experience, as well as become recognized as Charleston County's finest equipment operators," said John Myers, Field Operations Manager for [Charleston County's Public Works Department](#). "I am extremely proud of these gentlemen and their accomplishments. They have great attitudes and never waver from the job task or mission."

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," Myers said.

The upcoming [South Carolina Chapter of the American Public Works Association's Regional Backhoe Rodeo](#) on May 23 promotes National Public Works Week, which runs May 19-25 this year.

The [Regional Backhoe Rodeo Competition](#) provides a public forum to demonstrate the skills of personnel in the operation of backhoes, while providing an opportunity to recognize exceptional performance. Local contestants who are invited to the regional competition are experienced, recognized operators employed by [Charleston County Government](#).

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

- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org
- Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov>

- 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 Shawn Smetana -