



# News Release

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## Charleston County Hosts 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Festival on April 15

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 [2017 Earth Day Festival](#) on Saturday, April 15. 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 18<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.

"Charleston County's Annual Earth Day Festival is a great opportunity to increase environmental awareness in our community," said Andrew Quigley, [Charleston County Environmental Management's](#) Director. "We encourage residents to join us for this free, fun and family oriented event to learn how they can make a difference in our local community while at home, work and play."

Charleston County's Earth Day Festival attracts as many as 6,000 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 twelfth grade submitted drawings for the theme: "Recycle Right." The winning artwork will be displayed at the event and will be printed on the back of all festival T-shirts. New this year, the winning artwork will also be featured on the side of one of the County's recycling trucks.

### April 15 Earth Day Festival Schedule of Events:

- **11:10 a.m.:** Event kickoff with [Leonard School of Music](#) National Anthem performance
- **11:15 a.m.:**
  - Awards and recognition of the [Annual Earth Day Art Contest](#) winners
  - Recognition of festival volunteers
- **11:20 a.m.:** Live musical performance by [Leonard School of Music](#)
- **11:55 a.m.:** Remarks by Charleston County Councilmember Brantley Moody
- **12:00 p.m.:** Reptile demonstration by [The Edisto Serpentarium](#)
- **12:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by South Carolina bluegrass band [The Bluestone Ramblers](#)
- **1:20 p.m.:** Live Zumba demonstration
- **1:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [The Lowhills](#), an Americana group from Charleston
- **2:30 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [Wildflower Station](#)

### [Other Highlights of the 2017 Earth Day Festival:](#)

- Over 80 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
- [Earth Odyssey Alternative Vehicle Showcase](#) will promote the use of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles.
- [On Purpose Adventures](#) will provide entertainment and activities, including bubble soccer and relay races
- [Jump Bunch Charleston](#) will be on hand to host kid-centered activities and games.
- Hands-on fun with specials guests [The Little Gym of Mt Pleasant](#) and [Bricks 4 Kidz](#).
- Water buffalo by [Charleston Water Systems](#)

- 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 1,000 attendees
  - Showcase the Department's hydraulic hybrid recycling truck
  - Host a recycling tent with information, giveaways and prizes
- Kids Zone with fun activities, 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](#)
- [CCSD](#)
- [Food Waste Disposal](#)

For more information on recycling or the [2017 Earth Day Festival](#), visit [earthday.charlestoncounty.org](http://earthday.charlestoncounty.org) or call (843) 720-7111.

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- Visit our website: [www.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.charlestoncounty.org)



- Prepared by the Public Information Office -