

# News Release



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## Charleston County Hosts 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Festival on April 18

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 [2015 Earth Day Festival](#) on Saturday, April 26. 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 16<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 for citizens to learn how to protect our local environment by conserving our resources," said [Charleston County's Chairman of Recycling & Solid Waste and County Councilmember Colleen Condon](#). "We invite Lowcountry residents to join us for this admission-free, fun and family oriented environmental event at North Charleston's beautiful Riverfront Park."

Charleston County's Earth Day Festival attracts as many as 8,000 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 sixth grade submitted drawings for the theme: "Protect Our Planet. Conserve Resources" The winning artwork will be featured at the event and will be printed on the back of all festival T-shirts.

### April 18 Earth Day Festival Schedule of Events:

- **11:10 a.m.:** Event kickoff with [Leonard School of Music](#) Guitar Quartet
- **11:20 a.m.:**
  - Opening remarks by [Charleston County's Chairman of Recycling & Solid Waste and County Councilmember Colleen Condon](#)
  - Awards and recognition of the [Annual Earth Day Art Contest](#) winners
  - Recognition of festival volunteers
- **11:30 a.m.:** Live musical performance by [R.B. Stall High School](#) Steel Drum Band
- **12:05 p.m.:** Greening Schools Awards presentation with [Charleston County School District \(CCSD\)](#)
- **12:15 p.m.:** Birds of prey demonstration by Stephen Schabel with [The Avian Conservation Center](#)
- **12:45 p.m.:** Remarks by [Charleston County's Chairman of Recycling & Solid Waste and County Councilwoman Colleen Condon](#)
- **12:50 p.m.:** Live musical performance by South Carolina bluegrass band [The Bluestone Ramblers](#)
- **1:45 p.m.:** Zumba with Diane Betz
- **2:00 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [Leonard School of Music](#) Jazz Band & Percussion Ensemble
- **2:30 p.m.:** Live reptile demonstration by the [South Carolina Aquarium](#)
- **3:00 p.m.:** "The Earth Laughs" yoga demonstration with Brittany Hiller
- **3:10 p.m.:** Live musical performance by [Shrimp City Slim](#), piano/vocals specializing in Lowcountry blues and original songs with an environmental twist

### [Other Highlights of the 2015 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

- Compost Awareness Center, a focal point tent emphasizing the popular “Are You In the Loop?” game where attendees can learn about the composting cycle. Guests will receive home composting information, commercial food waste information and free compost samples.
- Hands-on fun with [Mad Science](#) play stations
- 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
  - Feature demonstrations showing the new hydraulic hybrid recycling truck
  - Host a recycling tent with information, giveaways and prizes
- Kids Zone with fun inflatables, 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 [2015 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)



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