

THE
**Community
Connection**
SPRING 2023



City Council



**Mayor
Robert Halfacre**



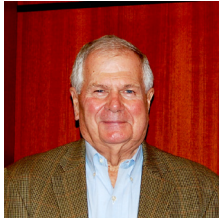
**Lillian
Boatwright**



**Bob
Brookover**



**John
Ducworth**



**John
Fulmer**



**Alesia
Smith**



**Catherine
Watt**

City Officials

City Administrator	Andy Blondeau
Assistant City Administrator	Alli Gantte
City Clerk	Beverly Coleman

City Directory

Administration	653-2030
African American Museum	654-2944
Arts Center	633-5051
Business Licensing	624-1147
Engineering	624-1126
Finance	653-2039
Fire and EMS	624-1165
Municipal Court	653-2045
Parks and Recreation	624-1120
Planning and Codes	653-2050
Police	624-2000
Public Works	653-2053
Stormwater	653-2071
Transit	654-2287
Urban/Park Land Management	624-1120
Utilities	653-2046
Utility Billing	653-2035

Inside this Issue

Message from the Mayor.....	3
The Story of Clemson.....	4
Brand Breakdown.....	5
A Change in Council.....	6
Spreading Love and Joy at Christmas.....	6
A Well Deserved Honor.....	6
Spotlight on Diversity.....	7
2022 Employees of the Year.....	8
Employee Spouse Award.....	9
H.E. Bucky Phillips Award.....	9
Life Saving Award.....	9
Years of Service Awards.....	9
Tourism and Community Events Coordinator.....	10
Holidays in the City.....	11
Victim Services: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change.....	12
Community Foundation Awards Record Grants.....	13
Fire Marshal Cautions: Lithium Ion Batteries.....	14
Business License Renewals.....	14
Stormwater Update.....	15
Parks and Recreation Updates.....	16-17
Spring 2023 Athletics.....	18
Pickens County 4-H.....	18
CCRC Swimming Lessons.....	18
South Carolina Botanical Gardens Events.....	19
3rd Annual Clemson 8 Challenge.....	20
Clemson Area African American Museum.....	21
The Arts Center of Clemson.....	21
Clemson Little Theatre Productions.....	21
Clemson Farmers Market.....	22
Community Shred Day.....	22
Clemson Community Care.....	22
Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.....	22
Boards and Commissions Meetings.....	23
Parks and Recreation Events.....	24

On the Cover

A birds eye view of Clemson: blue skies, green trees, and the Blue Ridge mountains in the backdrop. This was taken September 2020 by the City's GIS Technician Tyler Jones via drone camera. Tyler creates a variety of maps of the area, including interactive dashboards such as the brush pickup dashboard utilized by public works.

Community Connection Editor

Sarah Wickham

Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year!

The holiday season is a contemplative time, and I found myself incredibly grateful for the honor and privilege of serving as Mayor of our GREAT CITY! Thank you for allowing me this opportunity. The City of Clemson had an amazing 2022, and City staff and council look forward to working with you, the Clemson community, to accomplish even more in 2023.

One of the benefits of serving is meeting and getting to know so many of our residents. It is inspiring to learn of all the generous time and talents that are donated to better our City. One particularly amazing story is that of resident Maryalice Mayberry, who remains quite the inspiration at the spry age of 104! In the spirit of building our community together, I'd like to share a short version of her long and adventurous life story that began in Upstate New York.

Maryalice always wanted to work with children, which led to an extensive education in Psychology then a career working with emotionally scarred children. While in the profession, she took the opportunity to travel to five continents to work with children in remote areas. She traveled to these foreign lands without knowing their languages but was still able to communicate through art and her understanding of children's thinking.

After marrying her husband John, she continued her life of adventure with him at her side. Together they researched and built two solar homes together. They went to the Republic of Colombia as members of the Peace Corp then settled in Clemson to enjoy the intellectual stimulation of a University environment.

Since becoming residents of Clemson, they have contributed to the University and the Community in insurmountable ways by contributing to the building of the Brooks Center, endowing the Human Adventure Symposium, and mentoring students from different countries. Maryalice also served on the Board of Directors for the Child Development Center and aided in its move to its current (and much improved) location.

Maryalice still spends her quiet time thinking about what she can do to make life better for her community. She is still active and retains the curiosity and fearlessness that has served her well in her 104 years. She just recently implemented a drive to collect and assemble kits of art supplies to be distributed to the elderly during the Holiday Season!

Maryalice has spent a lifetime finding ways to give back to her community, wherever that may be. As we reflect on the blessing of living in this amazing City, let's all take a page out of Maryalice's book and think of ways that we can contribute our time and talents to make Clemson even better in 2023.

As always, I want to hear from you! I use social media as a way to distribute information but never as a catalyst for conversation. Call me. If I see you out in our community, stop me. I am happy to sit down over a cup of coffee. Let's Talk!



Go Tigers!

Mayor Robert Halfacre

The Story of Clemson

You See History Here.

The City of Clemson's history is richly textured. This place began as a small village founded near the railroad that has evolved into a dynamic community where educating young lives is a mission embedded in our core. We strive to explore our complex past with open eyes knowing that history ties place to people and enriches our understanding of how we came to be.

You See Progress Here.

This place is ever changing and to many it is forever young. We are part of a dynamic and growing region where the pace of change can sometimes feel disquieting. Yet, the City of Clemson looks to the future knowing that intentional growth and change have always been part of this place. We endeavor to curate a careful balance of preserving what makes each neighborhood and district distinct while acknowledging growth is always on the horizon.

You See the Outdoors Here.

The City of Clemson's parks present an opportunity to play and relax. From an evening stroll along Lake Hartwell to a game of tennis, from a day at the pump track to a swim at the beach, from a picnic under the trees to a ride along the greenway; the mixture of outdoor activities available in our parks and recreation sites is unrivaled. You will find more public lake access than any city in South Carolina and the breathtaking paradise of the Blue Ridge Mountains with hundreds of miles of trails, parks, rivers, and waterfalls to explore are just minutes away.

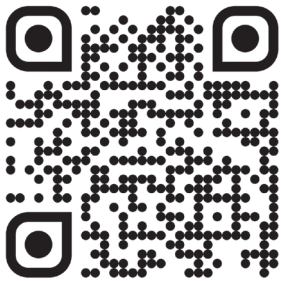
You See Diversity Here.

The hills that surround this city shelter a diverse community. People from across the nation and world find their way here. Students in our schools speak languages seldom heard in other towns our size. Retirees come here through ties to this place or the discovery that a small South Carolina city can offer amenities eclipsing many larger places. Families settle here to enjoy the warmth and safety of a true hometown. Our goal is to make Clemson your home wherever you are from.

You See Yourself Here.

Clemson is a city that serves an outsized role in South Carolina. The thousands of lives that have touched this community over many generations cannot help but leave an indelible imprint on this place. And the cadence of this place echoes through time making its own mark on each person who lives, works, studies, and visits here. This City envelops and embraces our namesake University where the ties are ever present while pursuing our mission to preserve and enhance our superior quality of life.

City of Clemson. See You Here.



To view the companion video,
visit the City of Clemson
Youtube channel,
or scan the QR code above.



Brand Breakdown

The Colors

The **orange** mimics the beautiful sunsets for which Clemson is so well loved.

The **deep blue** illustrates the Blue Ridge mountains.

The **light blue** represents and illustrates Lake Hartwell, a centerpiece and an asset to our community.

The **green** represents the trees and the parks and the general outdoor recreation that is prevalent and valued.

The Visual Imagery

During the roundtable discussions held by our representatives from Arnett Muldrow, the outdoors were frequently mentioned. The trees, mountains, lake and sunsets all afford area residents with many opportunities, so this new City logo depicts a tree by the lake with the sun setting over the Blue Ridge mountains in the background, with a “C” surrounding this image to tie it all together.

The tree is the focal point as one of the more consistent visual images associated with the City. The previous two logos have also contained trees, and the City has been a designated Tree City for several years. Additionally, the City recently completed a tree canopy study and is now working on methods to maintain and increase the canopy percentage. The ground around the tree suggests the roots that are essential to a trees resilience, acknowledging the importance of our City’s roots to the City of today.

The mountain range in the background was illustrated using an image of the actual mountain range as seen in Clemson. The brand consultants took an image and traced over it to create the illustration.

The Tagline

“See You Here” holds layered meanings. In some ways, it is the more formal way of saying “see ya,” which is often used as a salutation. From a tourism perspective, it is an invitation for others to visit Clemson, promising the ability to see yourself somewhere in the vast opportunities. The usage of “you” was an especially important choice. During the roundtable discussions, one discussion that stood out was the concept of the “we” and its vague and subjective meaning that may actually be more exclusive than inclusive. For those who do not feel part of the “we,” for whatever reason, use of “we” can feel immediately exclusive. So, use of the second person is meant to address everyone, asking each person to view Clemson with their individual experiences and find what Clemson means to them.

A Few Nods

- The orange of the sunset is just a few shades different from the University’s orange.
- Look closely at the lower right hand corner of the tree, and you may notice a familiar little fishhook. The tree was drawn around the University’s tiger paw.
- The icon used in the logo (with the C around the tree) is reminiscent of the iconic and unique Clemson ring worn by the University alumni.
- “See you” here brings to mind the “CU” vernacular often used around campus.

A note on the City’s seal:

The seal lists the year of Clemson’s incorporation as 1943, which may seem a little too recent. However, this is the year that Clemson was incorporated. Prior to 1943, the town was called Calhoun, which was incorporated in 1937. So while the town has existed in some way for longer than 80 years, its has only bore the name of “Clemson” for those 80 years.



A Change in Council

The City of Clemson Municipal Election was held November 8th, 2022. Council member Fran McGuire did not seek another term while Council members John Fulmer and Alesia Smith sought and won a second term. Lillian Boatwright was elected to fill McGuire's vacated seat. In December 2022, McGuire was honored for his years of service to the City. At the first meeting in January, City Clerk Beverly Coleman administered the Oath of Office to these recently elected Council members. The City thanks Fran McGuire for his service John Fulmer and Alesia Smith on their continued service on Council. The City welcomes Lillian Boatwright and thanks her for her willingness to serve.



A Well Deserved Honor



City of Clemson Municipal Clerk Beverly Coleman was awarded the 2022 Professional Achievement Award at the South Carolina Municipal Clerk Association's annual meeting in October. Beverly has been with the City of Clemson since 1999 and has served as the City Clerk since 2006. In addition to her Clerk duties, she was also the lone business license officer until 2015. She now supervises two other business license employees and manages the City's records. Through training at the Municipal Association, Beverly earned the Master Municipal Clerk certification, and her coworkers can attest to her knowledge and value. Congratulations, Beverly!

Spreading Love and Joy at Christmas

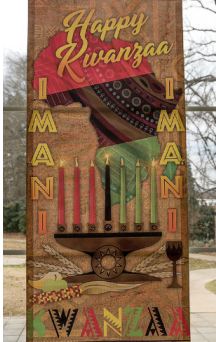
Each year, the City of Clemson organizes an angel tree to benefit local children in need, and each year, the community responds in a big way. From those who adopt angels to those who send monetary donations - of whatever size - these children are always sure to have plenty of gifts at Christmas. Seeing the generosity of others and the gratitude of recipients is always a heartwarming experience. This year, a group of retirees at Everlan had a blast shopping for their angels, and went above and beyond, making quite the impact on our staff. Thank you to all of these individuals at Everlan and to everyone who has donated to the angel tree in some way!



Spotlight on Diversity

Hispanic Heritage at The Arts Center

The Arts Center celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month this October with the theme *Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation*. A 12 foot Day of the Dead skeleton was on display in the gallery, and programming including fused glass mosaic classes, papier mâché Day of the Dead skeletons, and Hispanic Food Trucks. The final fiesta featured Flamenco dancers and the Mariachi Orion Band.



Kwanzaa at CAAAM

The Museum's Kwanzaa celebration took place December 27th through 29th with the theme *Unity in the CommUNITY*, and activities included the screening of two documentaries ("Desegregation to Justice" and "Invented Before You Were Born") as well as a drumming circle, an Afro-centric fashion show, and a talk on unity from Dr. Reverend Zackary Johnson. The last day during the Umoja Karamu featured traditional soul food by Manna from Heaven.

Mark Your Calendar

February

Black History

- 1 National Freedom Day
- 11 Int'l Day of Women and Girls in Science
- 15 Nirvana Day (Buddhist)
- 18 Maha Shivarati (Hindu)
- 20 World Day of Social Justice
- 22 Ash Wednesday (Catholic)

March

Ethnic Equality, Gender Equality, Women's History

- 1 Zero Discrimination Day
- 6 Purim (Jewish)
- 8 International Women's Day
- 8 Holi (Hindu)
- 23 Ramadan Begins (Muslim)

April

Arab-American Heritage, Autism Awareness, Celebrate Diversity

- 2 World Autism Awareness
- 5 Passover (Jewish)
- 7 Good Friday (Christian)
- 9 Easter (Christian)
- 23 Day of Silence

May

Jewish-American Heritage, Mental Health Awareness, Older Americans

- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 17 Int'l Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, Biphobia
- 21 World Day for Culture Diversity for Dialogue and Development

Challenge Yourself: Confronting Biases

"Bias" carries a negative connotation, and certainly can have many negative impacts. Unfortunately, biases and stereotypes are human nature as our often impressional brains crave order through categories. Biases and stereotypes, then, are not inherently bad but should not be left unchecked and unchallenged.

Consider some of your primary traits - age, gender, ethnicity, religion, race, and state of residence or even chosen clothing styles. Then consider the stereotypes and biases you may have heard or experienced based on those traits. How many of these stereotypes are true? How many of these biases are justified? How many are not? How do you feel about these misconceptions and others making judgements about you based on them? Have any of these biases or stereotypes affected you negatively in some way?

Now consider the biases and stereotypes that you hold or have held towards others and how those people may have been affected by those ideas (maybe not by you specifically but by the presence of that idea). Carefully and thoughtfully confront these thoughts and adjust or even fully discard all inaccurate, unfair, and harmful ideas. As you go through your days, try to be aware of any thoughts and opinions formed by biases or stereotypes and confront them in the moment to combat the ideas before they take hold.

2022 Employees of the Year



Public Works
David Chastain



Police
Sonya Morton



Planning and Codes
Jacob Peabody



Engineering
Tyler Jones



Parks and Recreation
Christy Medeiros



Transit
Brenda Shedd

Employee Spouse Award

Chris Cartee



In Heather Cartee's nomination write-up, she says she's head strong and opinionated and may not always be the easiest person with whom to interact. Her husband, Chris, however, is her opposite. His patience and easy going nature keeps her balanced, especially during the busy and stressful months of utility turnovers. Congratulations, Chris!

2022 H.E. Bucky Phillips Award

Captain Nate Heard



Captain Nate Heard has been in crisis negotiations with the City of Clemson since 1998, and is now the chief negotiator. The SC Crisis Negotiators Association awarded Capt. Heard with the H.E. Bucky Phillips Award for outstanding service. Heard estimates that he has been in approximately ten crisis situations, all of which were successfully diffused. He attributes that success to one thing: listening. The goal is to figure out why the person in question is in crisis then use that information to bring him or her to a manageable level. Congratulations Nate! Keep up the great work!

Life Saving Award

Officers Mark Gowan and Noah Millsbaugh



These officers responded to a 911 call at Twelve Mile Park where a drowning child has been pulled from the water. These officers took over CPR until EMS arrived to transport the child to the hospital where he survived.

Years of Service Awards

5 Years

Michele Bond, Transit
Felicia Earle, Transit
Ronnie Owens, Utilities
Tyler Jones, Engineering
Troy Baughey, Police
Jay Bennett, Parks and Recreation
Shelley Powell, Finance
Christy Medeiros, Parks and Recreation
Art Holbrooks, Planning
Marcus Hill, Public Works
Laura Lusk, Transit
Patrick Brock, Transit
Sarah Wickham, Administration

10 Years

Stacey Blackwell, Planning
Nathan Dixon, Utilities
Ron Stewart, Public Works
Elexis Earle, Public Works
David Chastain, Public Works
Chris Chancellor, Police

15 Years

Andy Blondeau, Administration
Holly Brown, Transit
Heather Cartee, Utility Billing
Greg Houck, Parks and Recreation

20 Years

Larry Dacus, Public Works
Brenda Link, Police

Meet the Tourism and Community Events Coordinator



With Clemson's growth and change over the last decade, City staffing needs have also grown and changed. The most recent example of this is the addition of a tourism and community events coordinator. After a nationwide search effort, Lauren Gamrat became the City of Clemson's first tourism employee.

Lauren grew up in Pittsburgh and considers that her official hometown, but she does have a history in and love of Upstate South Carolina. Her dad received his PhD from Clemson University in 1997. That same year, Lauren was born in Greenville, and the family lived in Seneca until the move to Pittsburgh in 1999. Clemson and the surrounding area left an impression, though, as they still vacation in the area and return for the occasional Clemson football game.

Lauren graduated from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Two weeks after graduation, she began work as the Marketing and Social Media Coordinator at the Greater Latrobe-Laurel Valley Chamber of Commerce. Latrobe is a small town with many claims to fame, including the original brewing location of Rolling Rock beer, the training camp of the Pittsburgh Steelers, and the birthplace of the banana split. Latrobe was also the home of golf legend Arnold Palmer and everyone's favorite neighbor, Mr. Fred Rogers.

Lauren enjoyed her time in Latrobe and has been afforded many opportunities, including attending the Steelers training camps and grabbing chicken wings at Dinos. But when the tourism position at the City of Clemson opened last fall, she saw a chance to return to her unofficial hometown full time. She brings with her a unique combination of being both familiar with the area but not so familiar that she has lost the ability to view it with a fresh perspective. She also brings experience working in a small town near a huge City and all of the considerations that may bring.

Lauren says she is most excited to meet new people in the area and to make connections in the community and also to use her creativity to promote tourism in the City. Ultimately, her goal is to promote Clemson as a tourist destination year-round, not just the obvious seven weekends each year. Developing and running an event requires a lot of time, so having Lauren in this dedicated position is a huge step towards harnessing all that Clemson has to offer into coordinated and exciting events.

Lauren is a fan of Clemson football and the Pittsburgh Steelers. She enjoys working out, which she balances with an enjoyment of cooking and baking. She also ranks hanging out with her friends and traveling and exploring new places as some of her favorite things, which will be of great benefit in this current role. Lauren briefly entertained cosmetology instead of marketing, and she still enjoys doing her own nails and makeup, though she draws the line at doing her own hair. She has no regrets in choosing marketing, though, saying she loves what she does.



Candy Cane Clemson



This past Christmas, the City had a new tree - bigger, brighter, and more realistic - by the flag plaza.

The 29th Annual Christmas parade theme was Candy Cane Lane. Bill Wooten returned to Clemson (from his new home in Pennsylvania) to serve as the Grand Marshal, and Mayor Halfacre wore a candy cane costume. We also had a visit from Santa, Mrs. Claus, one of the taller elves, and The Grinch.

The 2022 Senior Holiday Luncheon was held at the Littlejohn Community Center and was attended by 80 seniors from the community!



Victims Services: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change.



National Crime Victims Rights Week

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is a time to renew our commitment to serving all victims of crime, to acknowledge the achievements in victim services and allied professions, to honor those who have gone above and beyond in their service to others, and to remember crime victims and survivors.

Every April, the Office for Victims of Crime leads communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The 2023 National Crime Victims' Rights Week will be observed April 23rd through 29th. The theme for this year is Survivor Voices: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change. This year's theme calls upon communities to amplify the voices of survivors and create environments where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported. Clemson City Police Department will observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week with several special events. We invite everyone to join in the City's events and to support crime victims/survivors during this week as well as all year long.

Stay tuned for more information on these and other events during Crime Victims Rights Week:

- Join Mayor Robert Halfacre and City Council Members online or in person as the Mayor proclaims April 23-29, 2023, National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Clemson, SC.
- Clemson City Police Department teams up with the Pickens County Prevention Team on April 26th for Denim Day to bring awareness to National Crime Victims' Rights Week and Sexual Assault Awareness Month by handing out informational brochures and holding fun giveaways.
- An Informational Display at the Central Clemson Library throughout the week will feature victim's rights information, information about resources available to victims and survivors, and details on fun giveaways.
- Clemson City Police Department will have an informational booth at Clemson's Picnic in the Park. The community is invited to stop by our booth for fun giveaways and to get more information on victim/survivor services and resources available.
- Clemson City Police Department's Victim Service Provider (VSP) Sonya Morton, will have a booth set up at Clemson's Senior Bingo at the Clemson Fire Station and will be handing out information specifically on crime later in life, crime prevention, and recovery resources. She will be available to answer questions and hand out giveaways.



VSP Sonya Morton



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month:

Show your support for child abuse prevention at these and other events in April. Stay tuned for details.

- Fridays in April (April 7, 14, 21, and 28) wear blue to raise awareness
- Join us in planting "Pinwheels for Prevention" as Clemson City Officials and Officers team up with local child abuse prevention teams and other local human service agencies to plant a pinwheel garden to promote Child Abuse Prevention Month and to raise awareness of the problem of child abuse in our area and nationwide.
- "Hear the Voices Of Our Children" Walk: Join us on a walk from City Hall to Clemson Child Development to plant a garden of pinwheels to bring awareness!

Community Foundation Awards Record Grants



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
OF GREATER CLEMSON

In 2022 the Community Foundation of Greater Clemson awarded a record \$35,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations serving our area. CFGC focused these grants on two areas critical to the quality of life of community residents: literacy and housing.

- **United Way of Pickens County's Camp iRock** - \$5,000 - supports a free, six-week program featuring remedial reading and summer camp experiences at three Pickens County locations.
- **The Parenting Place** - \$1,667 - supports a free voluntary service which provides enrolled families with social support, parenting tips, and tools to create a healthy home environment.
- **Clemson Child Development Center** - \$2,500 - funds a music arts education program combining movement and exercise.
- **Brown Sugar Room at Littlejohn Community Center** - \$2,500 - helps raise reading proficiency and foster a love of reading by offering children choices of interesting books written by black authors. Students from Clemson University, Southern Wesleyan University, and Tri-County Technical College will assist as reading tutors.
- **Blue Ridge Innovation and Entrepreneurship Foundation** - \$2,500 - enables a 300% increase in the number of children with access to technology and hands-on STEM training to develop critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and teamwork skills.
- **Feed A Hungry Child of Pickens County** - \$1,333 - allows for the expansion of boxed meals offered to students at Clemson, Central, and Six Mile Elementary Schools, Edwards Middle School, and Daniel High School so they do not go hungry on the weekends.
- **Baby Read** - \$1,000 - funds the creation of a program in the Clemson community to provide books for toddlers to take home and offer Highlights High Five magazine to children each month.
- **Lakes and Bridges Charter School** - \$2,500 - funds will be used to purchase a dedicated computer for the school's media center, additional non-fiction books and other learning resources, furniture, and carts for classroom delivery of curriculum-related resources.
- **Helping Hands of Clemson** - \$4,000 - helps continue providing a safe and nurturing environment for the children placed in its care.
- **Tracy and Sunshine Gantt Ministries** - \$1,000 - helps offset the costs of fuel for a shuttle bus and to purchase a new deep freezer.
- **George and Roszena Shaw Center** - \$3,500 - funds dry wall, plumbing, floor reinforcement, ductwork, and electrical repairs needed to keep senior citizens in their homes.
- **Rebuild Upstate** - \$5,000 - effects critical repairs and accessibility improvements on two homes in Pickens County to improve the quality of life for residents and ensure that their homes are safer and more livable.
- **Pickens County Habitat for Humanity** - \$2,500 - funded the kitchen appliances and water heater for this year's Homecoming house, which was initially dried-in on Bowman Field.



Above: *Adraine Garner of Littlejohn Community Center*

Below: *Debbie Vaughn of Lakes and Bridges Charter School*



This record year of grant awards was only possible due to the generous giving of neighbors who want to help improve the quality of life for all the residents of our community.

To donate: visit www.cfgcsc.org/donate or scan the QR code to the left.

To make a long-term impact on our community through a planned or legacy gift, contact executive director Susan Sharp at susan.sharp@cfgcsc.org

Fire Marshal Cautions: Lithium Ion Batteries



Today's modern society is filled with devices that use lithium-ion batteries, including home electronics such as phones, laptop computers, tablets, e-scooters, and other devices that require plug-in charging. All of these items contain one of these batteries. This increase in usage has also increased the number of fires from these batteries.

In order to decrease the chance of lithium ion battery fires, following these safety tips:

- Only use chargers and cables that came with/are compatible with the device; an incompatible charger can cause the device to overheat.
- Purchase batteries and devices that have been certified by UL or another independent safety testing agency.
- To dispose of these batteries, recycle them at a proper recycling center; do not put in household garbage.
- Do not charge a device under pillows or bedding or on top of beds and sofas.
- Do not charge near your primary exit.
- Keep batteries at room temperature and away from heat or direct sunlight.
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Stop using the device and battery immediately if you notice:

- Odor
- Change in color
- Too much heat
- Change in shape
- Leaking
- Odd noises



If any of the above happens and/or you feel a dangerous situation is in progress or imminent, move the device away from all items that can catch fire and call 9-1-1.

Business License Renewals Due April 30, 2023

"Annual licenses" (in town or out of town) are required to renew by **April 30, 2023**. Business owners are reminded that there is a \$25.00 late fee plus 15% penalty for a delinquent license beginning May 1st; 20% as of June 1st; and 25% as of July 1st, etc. After July 1st, businesses are subject to court summons and court fines up to \$1,092.50 per occurrence.

Online Business Licenses

New licenses, renewals and upgrades can be submitted through the City's Customer Self-Service Portal at the City's website www.cityofclemson.org. All "In-town" businesses are still required to submit proof of gross receipts and can do so by email.

Renewals for the City of Clemson may also use the MASC Local Business License Renewal Center at <https://www.localblrenewal.com> to apply and pay online for a business license. In-town businesses can submit proof of gross receipts with application at the Renewal Center website.

**The Business License Office is available
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday by phone at 864.624.1147
or by email at cstandridge@cityofclemson.org.**

Stormwater Report: Yard Debris and F.O.G.s

What to do with yard debris?

With warmer temperatures and blooming plants, Spring is a popular time for many to clean and beautify their yards. However, improper placement of yard debris can cause excess drainage and maintenance issues.

When removing yard debris, be mindful of the placement of your discard pile. Please do not place this debris in/around any storm drains or in any ditches adjacent to the road. Doing so can obstruct the flow of stormwater in these structures, resulting in clogs and other drainage issues. The City's Public Works Department runs routes to pick up debris placed within ten feet of the edge of the pavement, which should hopefully allow plenty of options for piles of debris that will not pose a threat to the drainage systems.

Additionally, this debris should NOT be dumped or placed in any of the creeks that traverse the City. Some driveways cross the many creeks we have in the City and any "dumped" debris can result in the culverts becoming clogged, which increases the risk of them being overtopped by water and potentially washing away.

Fats, Oils, and Greases

If you are ever out on a walk near one of our many waterways and notice an oily sheen on the surface of the water, for the sake of our stormwater system, take a closer look at the sheen to help us identify potential illicit discharges. Oily sheens fall into one of two categories: those made naturally and those produced as a result of pollutants entering our storm sewer system.

Sheens created by nature occur as microbes in the soils go through their anaerobic process. Most of the byproducts of these microbes evaporate; however some of the hydrocarbons (which are lighter than water) do not and end up floating on the surface of the water. The oily sheen can also be caused by the breakdown of dead plant material.

Sheens caused by pollutants are the result of a specific pollutant group: Fats, Oils, and Greases or F.O.G.s. These pollutants can include gasoline, used motor oil, and used cooking oil. Improper disposal of these pollutants causes them to enter our waterways where they are easily transported then collect in slow or still water. This is when they produce the oily sheen on the top of the water.

Fortunately, it is easy to differentiate between sheens caused by nature and sheens caused by pollutants. If you notice a sheen on the surface of a body of water, drop a small rock into the oily collection or use a stick to stir the collection. If the sheen breaks up into small irregular shapes, then the source is of natural causes and is not a concern. If the sheen tries to regroup or swirls then it is most likely a F.O.G. pollutant. In this case, please report a possible illicit discharge to the Stormwater department at 864-653-2071 or stormwater@cityofclemson.org. Please have the location ready to report, and the stormwater department will investigate and try to locate the source, put a stop to the discharge, and prosecute if necessary.

Tips to keep F.O.G. out of the Waterways

- Pour cooled grease into a container and throw the whole container into the trash.
- Never dispose of used cooking oil down the drain as this can cause clogs in the sewer line.
- Collect used motor oil and take to an approved used oil collection site.
- If you do spill a F.O.G., cover it with kitty litter until it's dry, then sweep up and throw away.



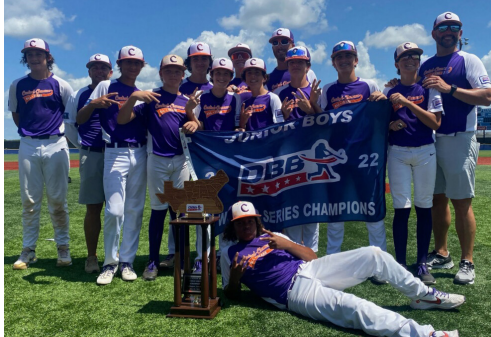
If you have any questions about these or other issues please contact the Stormwater Manager, Ethan Barnette, by phone at 864-653-2071 or email at ebarnette@cityofclemson.org.

Parks and Recreation Updates

Sports Victories

The City's robust recreational athletic programs have had many successes in recent years. In 2022, a total of 2,610 participants enrolled in athletic programs, including baseball, soccer, softball, basketball, volleyball, cross country, and tennis. A few of our teams competed for a variety of championships:

- 10U boys basketball finished 2nd in the South Carolina Athletic Programs (SCAP) State Tournament
- 14U boys basketball finished 3rd in the SCAP State Tournament
- Spring 8U softball finished 2nd in the SCAP State Tournament
- Spring 13U baseball won the State Championship and Dixie Boys World Series Championship
- Fall 8U coed soccer won the SCAP State Tournament
- Fall 8U girls soccer won the District Championship



...And a Big Win for the Parks and Recreation Department

The City of Clemson's Parks and Recreation Department won the South Carolina Athletic Programs Class II Department of the Year award for the fourth time in the past five years. This award is for agencies that cover an area between 10,000 and 25,000 people.

Keep Active Through the Colder Months

Even when the weather is cold or rainy, our community members can still keep up with wellness habits at the Central-Clemson Recreation Center (CCRC). The CCRC meets many of our community's fitness needs with its extensive programs and facilities, which include a weight room, aquatics facilities, and basketball/volleyball/pickleball courts.

Members can go for a swim, lift weights, take an aerobics class, run on the treadmill, play pickleball, shoot basketball, and much more. Fitness classes are offered every day of the week, and pickleball games are offered three mornings a week. The weight room is open every day, and the CCRC also has personal trainers that can help with individual fitness goals.

Members can also start preparations for the summer swim season with swim lessons or aquatic fitness classes. The lap pool and a therapeutic pool are both salt water pools and are open to the public. A lifeguard is on duty any time the pool is open. (Information on this year's swim lessons is located on page 18.)

This spring is also a good time to enroll children or grandchildren in the Central-Clemson Recreation Center After School Program for the 2023-2024 school year. The CCRC's After School Program offers a caring environment where kids can get creative, play hard, and learn more. Check the CCRC website for more information about the After School Care Program. Spaces fill quickly, so register soon!

Rec Center membership is available for residents and non-residents of Clemson and Central. Membership periods are available for the year, for the month, or for the summer. Daily passes are also available to use the facilities and/or attend a class for those who may want to "try before they buy."

For more information, visit the Central-Clemson Recreation Center's website at <https://www.centralclemsonrec.com/>

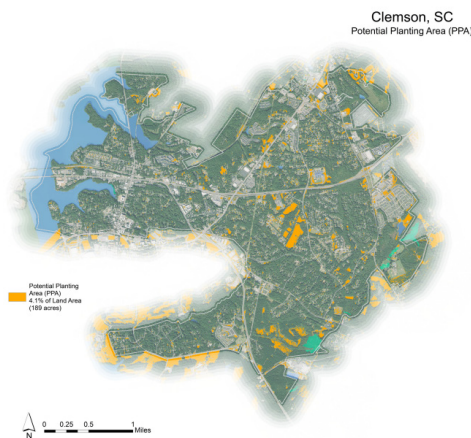
Parks Updates: Mountain View Park Disc Golf Course Expanded

Thanks to Liam Chandler's Eagle Scout Project and Boy Scout Troop 235, the disc golf course at Mountain View Park was expanded from 9 to 18 holes. Liam is a senior at D.W. Daniel High School. He is the student body president and the co-founder of the Daniel High Disc Golf Club. Disc golf is an excellent way to get fresh air and low-impact exercise on crisp cool days, and the shade makes it a great activity for the summer time as well. We encourage disc golfers new and old to try out the new expanded course.



How Many Trees are in Clemson? Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Completed

A healthy tree canopy is necessary to maintain quality of life, manage stormwater and water quality, and minimize the impacts on natural resources that come with growth. The City wanted to find out what percent of Clemson is currently covered with trees in order to protect what we have and to grow the canopy in the future. To this end, the City completed an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment in Clemson in October 2022 with assistance from the South Carolina Forestry Commission and the Green Infrastructure Center. This is an important step towards environmental sustainability in Clemson.



Here are some key findings from the Urban Tree Canopy Assessment:

- Current Tree Canopy is 48%
- 2 of the City's watersheds are at 24% impervious surfaces. Anything over 25% will severely impact the habitat and water quality.
- Potential Planting Area is 189 acres
- 11,978 more small trees (20 ft diameter crowns) can be planted
- 9,226 more large trees (40 ft diameter crowns) can be planted
- Potential Tree Canopy could be 53%

The City will use this new baseline data to prioritize tree planting efforts on public lands and to inform policy and planning decisions to protect our habitat and water quality. The City's goal is to maintain this 48% canopy cover and aim to increase the canopy cover to 50% over time. The community is strongly encouraged to protect their existing trees and plant new ones on their private property. The City and Trees Upstate hosted a tree giveaway in January with plans for future tree giveaways in the fall.

City Welcomes New Horticulturist: Chris White

The City of Clemson welcomes new horticulturist Chris White, who began in August of 2022. The job of the city horticulturist is to preserve the natural landscapes by designing and maintaining the city's green spaces, gardens, recreational areas, parks, and public spaces. The horticulturist chooses and maintains the plants, trees, and flowers throughout Clemson and works to control any pests and diseases in the local flora.



Chris's specific interests in Horticulture are in sustainability, native plants, and landscape design. He has been in the Horticulture field for about 20 years, beginning when he was in high school working as a cashier/mulch loader for a small nursery in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Chris filled the position that was vacated when Tony Tidwell became the director of the newly created Department of Urban and Park Land Management. Welcome, Chris, and thank you for your work beautifying Clemson!

Spring 2023 Athletics

Registrations Open:

Baseball	January 23rd
Softball	January 23rd
Volleyball	January 23rd
Soccer	Late February

All registration takes place online at www.clemsoncity.org via the Parks & Recreation Department.



Pickens County 4-H

Can I Join 4-H?

4-H is for everyone ages 5-18

Why Join 4-H?

- Fun Clubs
- Summer Camp
- Various Trips
- College Scholarships

Already a Member?

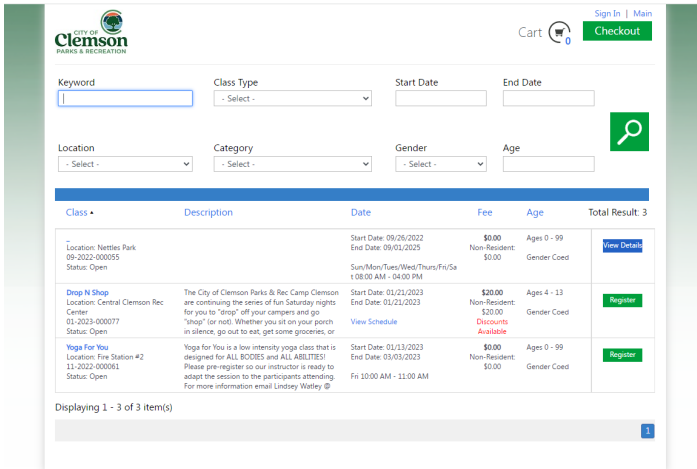
One More Shot 4-H Shotgun Club

Focusing on Safety, Responsibility, and Patience
Open to 7th through 12th graders

4-H Junior Naturalist Club

Learn Nature, Love Nature, Stay Close to Nature
Located at the SC Botanical Gardens

For more information or to join
jsutter@clemson.edu



Introducing Our New Registration Platform

All 2023 registrations will utilize a new platform, which will be a little unfamiliar compared to previous years. Even if you are not yet registering, we recommend visiting the website, logging into the program, and familiarizing yourself with the layout and process. Anticipate the process taking a bit longer the first time you register through the new platform.

Keep Updated with Registrations and Offerings:

Additional Athletic Program information is located on the city website at www.clemsoncity.org via the Parks & Recreation Department and on the City of Clemson Parks & Recreation Facebook Page ([CityofClemsonParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/CityofClemsonParksandRec)).

Sign up for email alerts to be notified when registrations open! Visit the "How Do I?" section of the city website, click "Email List Sign-up" then sign up under Recreation, Sports, Camps.

For more information, contact
Shannon Knight, Athletic Director
sknight@cityofclemson.org

**Garden Naturalist:
Discover South Carolina**

1pm to 5pm

February 28th Piedmont
March 28th Southeastern Plains
April 25th Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain
May 23rd Southern Coastal Plain

Learn about the ecology of South Carolina's ecoregions.

Clemson Experimental Forest Tours

9am to 11am

February 17th, March 24th, April 14th
*Explore a different area of the 17,500-acre
Clemson Experimental Forest each month.*

Chocolate: Seed to Sweet

3:30pm to 5:30pm

February 10th

*Children and caregivers will learn about chocolate
and make crafts to celebrate Valentine's Day.*

Garden Naturalist:

Wildflower Ecology

10am to 11:30am

February 14th

*Learn about the ecology of spring wildflowers and
the woodlands they grow in. This is a Zoom program.*

Botanical Eggs

3:30pm to 5:30pm

Friday, March 24th

*Decorate eggs with plant-derived materials and
construct 'bird nests' to take home.*

Hunt Cabin Open House

10am to 4pm

February 25th Keeping Warm in Winter
March 25th Spring Tonic
April 25th Farm Life
May 27th "Make Do and Mend"

Garden Sprouts

10am to 11am

Mondays February 20th through May 29th
*Preschool children will discover the wonders of the Botanical
Garden through stories, arts and crafts, nature walks, and more.*

Stroller Struts

10am to 11am

February 1st Whistle Pig Weather
March 1st Waking From Winter
April 5th Wildflower Walk
May 3rd Plant Parts Promenade
*Preschoolers will enjoy a story and a
garden walk to explore the day's theme.*

Homeschool Days

Thursday 1pm to 2:30pm/Friday 10am to 11:30am

February 23rd/24th The Night Sky
March 30th/31st Seasons and Weather
April 27th/28th Flowers and Pollination
May 24th/25th All About Birds
Activities are designed for children ages 5 and up.

Junior Naturalists I

4pm to 5:30pm

Alternate Thursdays February 9th through May 18th
*Explore the habitats of South Carolina
from the mountains to the sea. (For ages 6-12.)*

Junior Naturalists II

4pm to 5:30pm

Alternate Thursdays February 16th through May 25th
*Develop a greater appreciation of the
natural world and its complexity. (For teens.)*

Nature Center Open House

10am to 4pm

February 25th Animals in Winter
March 25th Birds
April 25th South Carolina Trees
May 27th Dragons and Damsels

*Programs may require pre-registration and may require payment of a registration fee.
For details or to register for these and other events, visit clemson.edu/scbg.*

2023 Clemson 8 Challenge: “Lest We Forget”

Last November, on Military Appreciation Day in Clemson’s Memorial Stadium, four tables in the West End Zone were set for twenty-three POWs. Only three seats were occupied. As a “Roll Call” of the POWs was read, the individuals in the three occupied seats answered, “Present.” As the crowd watched in silence, a white linen cloth was removed from the remaining twenty seats when the POW did not respond. The placing of a rifle, helmet and boots followed in the other end zone. The “three-round volley,” commonly known as a 21-gun salute, and TAPS echoed in the background.

(Photo by Jonathan Chiu, Clemson Corps)



The Third Annual “Clemson 8” Challenge honors those POWs with an eight mile run/walk/bike course. A course will be setup in Clemson for those who wish to participate in person, or you can run/walk/bike your own eight miles at the location and dates of your choosing.

3rd Annual Clemson 8 Challenge
Saturday, March 11th, 2023
10am



All proceeds from the entry fees will benefit the Clemson University ROTC program to fund scholarships and send a group of cadets to compete in the Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.



Posthumously, Honorary Brigadier General “Colonel Ben” Skardon was the first person to be signed up for the 2023 “Clemson 8” Challenge. Colonel Ben passed away on November 15th, 2021 at 104 years old. In March 2021, he completed his “challenge” by finishing his eight miles over the designated eight days. For years Colonel Ben trained for the Bataan Memorial March in the woods separating his neighborhood from the edge of Clemson University’s campus. His 0.33-mile “Sylvan Delight” Trail was dedicated by the City in 2019 and by the University last summer. The trail is open to the public to walk, jog, or bike.

Colonel Ben was the last living survivor of Clemson’s six POWs who endured the Bataan Death March in 1942. He was well known as the only survivor of the actual Bataan Death March who walked in the annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, one of the most challenging and popular marathons in the world. The event is a pilgrimage for veterans, active-duty military members, supporters, the few remaining survivors, the family members of the men who perished in the march, the POW camps and the Death Ships.



For more information or to register, scan the Qr code above or e-mail johnseketa@gmail.com or trentallen82@gmail.com.

Clemson Little Theatre Proudly Presents...



The 39 Steps
February 3rd - 5th
A laugh out loud spy caper

The Magicians Nephew

March 10th - 12th
17th - 19th

A vibrant adaptation of a classic
C.S. Lewis story.



Tuck Everlasting (The Musical)

April 28th - 30th
May 5th - 7th

A musical adaptation of Natalie
Babbitt's beloved 1975 novel.

For more information
864-646-8100
CLTplays@gmail.com
clemsonlittletheatre.com

Register for
Winter/Spring
Session

PAINTING, DRAWING,
PHOTOGRAPHY, MIXED MEDIA,
JEWELRY, FIBER, BASKET WEAVING,
CLAY, GLASS FUSING, YOUTH
CLASSES, AND WORKSHOPS

212 Butler Street, Clemson
www.explorearts.org
864.633.5051

THE CITY OF CLEMSON
artscenter



Pilgrimage Vibrations

Artist and Poet Robert Spencer
On Display until February 28th

The 2nd Annual African American Art Show features art and poetry by Red Hill resident Robert Spencer. These works attempt to lead the viewer into the realm of self-exploration and discovery.

Black History Month at CAAAM

Visit caaam.org for specific events and dates, including a viewing of *Invented Before You Were Born*, a documentary co-produced by Clemson University Oral Historian Dr. Grimes.

Local African American History

CAAAM is seeking photos, documents, and other items pertaining to African Americans in Pickens County. If you have photos or documents about African Americans that you would like to share with the museum, contact museum director Angela Agard to schedule a time to come in and discuss your items. We will scan your photos/documents and return the originals to you, unless you choose to donate them to the museum archives.



CAAAM open hours are Tuesday through Friday 10am to 4pm. For those unable to visit during these hours, call 864-654-2944 to make alternative arrangements.



Clemson Farmers Market

Thursdays Beginning in May

4pm to 7pm

Patrick Square Village Green
160 Thomas Green Boulevard

Local Produce, Farm Products, Arts and Crafts

For more information:

Facebook: Clemson Farmer's Market

Instagram: @clemsonfreshfarmersmarket

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE



A UNITED WAY COLLABORATIVE

Save the Fee – File for Free

United Way of Pickens County, in collaboration with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), offers free income tax assistance to thousands of individuals and families across Pickens County through Free File, a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Free File provides free income tax preparation assistance to individuals and families with a household income of \$60,000 a year or less. Free File works to ensure everyone in the community receives all of the tax credits and deductions for which they are eligible. The program is supported by an amazing team of IRS-certified volunteers.

Call 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment for free tax assistance. Sites are located at the Pickens County Libraries. Appointments are available weekdays, evenings, and Saturdays. All volunteers are IRS certified, and all taxes are filed electronically, allowing you to receive your tax refund quickly.

For more information, contact

*Nicole Zeiset, United Way of Pickens County
nzeiset@uwpickens.org 864-850-7094 ext. 131.*



Community Shred Day

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

9am to 12pm

1250 Tiger Boulevard
City Hall Upper Parking Lot

Community members are invited to bring up to 4 bags/boxes per person for FREE, secure, on-site shredding. Follow the signs to the drop off spot, then stay in your car while staff and volunteers take your materials and load them in the shred truck.

Clemson Community Care will be on site to accept monetary donations or nonperishable food items.

For more information, contact

Beverly Coleman

864-653-2031

Clemson Community Care

In 2022 year, CCC averaged distributing 1200 pounds of food per day to our neighbors. Any donations of in-date, non-perishable items are accepted and appreciated.



For more information,

<https://clemsoncommunitycare.org/>

864-653-4460



Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Saturday,
May 13th, 2023

Leave a bag of nonperishable food items by your mailbox to be picked up by your mail carrier or drop off donations at your local post office or food bank.

For more information on the food drive or other to

find local food banks, visit

www.nalc.org/community-service/food-drive

Spring 2023 Boards and Commissions Meetings

February

- 6** City Council
- 7** Board of Architectural Review
- 13** Planning Commission
- 16** Board of Zoning Appeals
- 20** City Council
- 21** Economic Dev Adv. Committee
- 23** Police Advisory Board

March

- 6** City Council
- 7** Board of Architectural Review
- 13** Planning Commission
- 16** Board of Zoning Appeals
- 20** City Council
- 21** Parks, Rec, Arts, Culture,
Tourism Advisory Committee
- 23** Police Advisory Board

April

- 3** City Council
- 4** Board of Architectural Review
- 10** Planning Commission
- 17** City Council
- 18** Economic Dev Adv. Committee
- 20** Board of Zoning Appeals
- 27** Police Advisory Board

May

- 1** City Council
- 2** Board of Architectural Review
- 8** Planning Commission
- 15** City Council
- 16** Parks, Rec, Arts, Culture,
Tourism Advisory Committee
- 18** Board of Zoning Appeals
- 25** Police Advisory Board

Municipal Court Information

Wednesday Court Sessions:
9:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm

Municipal Court Business Hours
Monday - Thursday 8am to 5pm
Friday 8am to 3pm

Stay Informed and Updated

Meetings streamed live on the City's Youtube.
([youtube.com/cityofclemsonsouthcarolina](https://www.youtube.com/cityofclemsonsouthcarolina))

For the most up to date information or to sign
up for email updates,
visit www.cityofclemson.org

Updates also on Twitter and Facebook



CITY OF
Clemson

1250 Tiger Boulevard
Clemson, SC 29631

Movies in May

May 5th, 12th, & 19th
7:30pm

Picnic in the Parks

Wednesdays in April
11:45am - 1:15pm

April 5th Jaycee Park
April 12th Ashley Dearing Park
April 19th Nettles Park




*Pack a lunch and enjoy live music
and free refreshments in the parks.*

February 16th: Valentines Day
March 18th: Drop and Shop
April 8th: Easter Egg Hunt
April 22nd: Community Garage Sale
May 20th: VIP and Me



Camp Clemson
Registration Opens
March 1st at 1pm

Spring Break Camp
April 10th through 14th

 Fire Station #2 Community Room
740 Issaqueena Trail Central, SC
 Jan 20, 27 & Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24
& Mar 3 and 10
 10am-11am

The City of Clemson P&R and partners are launching a pilot Yoga for YOU series in Jan. 2023! Yoga for YOU is here for everyone and every-BODY. Join us and find out how much you can achieve!



CITY OF
Clemson
PARKS & RECREATION

Senior Bingo

Feb. 10, Mar. 10, May 12
11:45am-1:15pm
Fire Station # 2
740 Issaqueena Drive

**YOGA FOR
YOU**

For more information, contact Lindsey Watley at lwatley@cityofclemson.org or 864-624-1120.