Legacy Park Friends

FALL 2026
NEWSLETTER

Legacy Park Friends Ambassadors: Building a Stronger Partnership for Hollingsworth Park

The Legacy Park Friends Ambassadors recently gathered for an informative and inspiring meeting focused on the future of Legacy Park and our shared commitment to Legacy Park—Hollingsworth Park.

Ambassadors are representatives from each of Hollingsworth Park's communities whose collective purpose is to help enhance the beauty of our park while encouraging everyone to enjoy and appreciate the wonderful space we share.

Our guest speaker was Donna Carver, Partnership Development Manager with the City of Greenville. Donna provided an overview of the City's public-private partnership with Legacy Park and explained how these partnerships help develop and enhance parks and public amenities.

Donna also highlighted the City's Urban Forest initiative, the importance of the City's green spaces, and ways to build neighborhood awareness.



(L-R) Bonnie Wallin, LPF President; Donna Carver, Partnership Development Manager, City of Greenville; Dana Plant, LPF Vice President.

***Public-Private Partnerships** are crucial for the City of Greenville as they provide essential funding and support to develop and enhance parks and public amenities. By fostering collaboration between the City and private funders, these partnerships leverage financial resources beyond what tax-based budgets can typically support, leading to higher-quality spaces and more diverse experiences for residents.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Legacy Park Spruce-up
with City of Greenville
September 26
November 3
volunteers needed
details on page 5

Hollingsworth Park Fall Fest
October 1
details on page 3

Witches Ride
October 25, 5:00 pm
details on page 2

LPF 5th Anniversary
November 8 (save the date)

"Light Up the Night" Neighborhood Luminaries
December 16, 6:00-8:00 pm
Rain Date:
December 20
Luminaries pickup:
December 13

Witches Ride Takes Flight on October 25, 2026



Mark your calendars for a spellbinding community ride on **October 25, 2026**, when the Witches Ride returns to Hollingsworth Park with a festive parade of costumed witches and warlocks traveling through the neighborhood on bicycles and golf carts. Families are invited to watch along the route, cheer on the riders, and enjoy a fun Halloween celebration filled with seasonal spirit.

Community members are encouraged to come out, watch the witches ride by, collect treats from the riders, and take part in the excitement. Adult riders of all genders are invited to dress as fun, colorful witches or warlocks and decorate their bikes or golf carts for the ride. Along the route, riders will pass out candy and non-candy treats to children at designated drop spots.

Proceeds from the event will support the **Playground Fund**, which helps improve and enhance local playground equipment for children and families in the community. By joining the ride or cheering from the route, neighbors can celebrate the season while contributing to a project that benefits the area year-round.

The ride begins on Sunday, October 25, at 5:00 p.m. at The Pool at Hollingsworth and will last approximately 15 to 20 minutes. Registration is $25 for bike riders and $50 for a limited number of golf carts, which will help anchor the ride and keep the parade organized.

Registration begins October 1, 2026. Visit https://www.legacyparkfriends.com/ to register.



A Fitting Welcome



Our park now has an attractive sign befitting its distinct charm. In July, the City of Greenville installed new Legacy Park signage, a welcoming feature that proudly reflects the park's characteristic beauty. If you are walking, jogging, or simply enjoying the grounds, take a moment to stop by and see the new sign. Located off the circle at Rocky Slope Road and Algonquin Trail.

Visit the Legacy Park Friends Tent at the October Fall Fest



Legacy Park Friends will host a tent at the Hollingsworth Park Fall Fest on October 1. We invite residents, neighbors, families, and friends to stop by, say hello, and learn more about our organization and the work we are doing to support and enhance Legacy Park.

This is a great opportunity to meet members of Legacy Park Friends, learn about upcoming projects and activities, and discover ways you can get involved. Whether you are a longtime supporter or are just learning about Legacy Park Friends for the first time, we would love to see you.

As part of the event, Legacy Park Friends will also be hosting a raffle, with proceeds going directly toward the **Playground Fund** to provide new playground equipment for the community. Every ticket purchased will get us one step closer to providing new and improved facilities for children and families to enjoy Legacy Park.

The event takes place on Thursday, October 1, 2026, 5:00-9:00 pm.

Visit Hello Hollingsworth Park for details.

The Legacy Park Friends Playground Fund

The City of Greenville's budget provides for periodic refurbishment of park playground equipment. The Legacy Park Friends Playground Fund supplements that program with equipment upgrades and enhancements, to create a truly exceptional playground for our community. Public-private partnerships like this are "win-win" both for the City and for all of the families who enjoy Legacy Park.

5th Annual "Light Up the Night" Luminary Event

"Light Up the Night" is more than a beautiful display—it's a celebration of the community we share. Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and be part of the glow!

🎅 Visit with Santa Claus
☕ Enjoy hot chocolate
🍪 Treat yourself to cookies
✨ Take in the beautiful luminary displays
🤝 Catch up with friends and neighbors

Luminary kits will be available to buy online in November—stay tuned!



Greenville's Path Forward: Planning for a Vibrant Future



Victoria Iriel, CPRP
Deputy Director
City of Greenville Parks, Recreation & Tourism
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The City of Greenville is advancing two major initiatives to shape its future: the Urban Forest Comprehensive Plan and the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Master Plan.

The Urban Forest Comprehensive Plan is a citywide effort to assess Greenville's existing tree canopy, understand its health and diversity, and guide long-term stewardship of this critical green infrastructure. The plan incorporates extensive public engagement, including input from Legacy Park Friends, consultant analysis, and a full inventory of street and park trees to evaluate canopy condition, species mix, and age distribution across the city. The plan will recommend strategies for protecting healthy mature trees, increasing species diversity in new plantings, and addressing aging canopy segments through proactive maintenance and replacement.

Once finalized, the Urban Forest plan will provide a roadmap for sustaining and expanding Greenville's tree canopy in a thoughtful, equitable, and resilient manner.

The Parks, Recreation & Tourism Master Plan will establish a 10-year roadmap to guide Greenville's investments in parks, green space, recreation facilities, trails, and public programs and events citywide. Built from extensive analysis and public engagement, including input from HOA presidents and Legacy Park Friends, the plan outlines goals and strategies to ensure fair access to high quality spaces and experiences for all residents.

The PR&T Master Plan priorities include:

- environmental protection
- expanding and preserving green space
- enhancing recreation amenities
- improving maintenance standards
- strengthening equity and inclusion, and
- supporting tourism initiatives

The plan will undertake a full assessment of the current system, identification of gaps and future needs, and a detailed implementation framework covering operations. Once adopted, the PR&T Master Plan will serve as a guiding document to shape future development, redevelopment, and longterm stewardship of Greenville's parks, trails, community centers, recreation programs and events.

These plans aim to elevate environmental quality, neighborhood livability, and public well-being for Greenville's current and future residents. Through strategic management and community-driven investments, your city is working to build a resilient, equitable, and thriving urban environment.

For more Greenville Parks information:

- Special Event Permits
- Rental Information
- Parks and Recreation Policies

Non-Emergency Police Number:
(864) 271-5333
Emergencies: 911
Parks and Grounds: (864) 467-4355
Greenville Cares: (864) 232-2273

Building Youth Character at Legacy Park

Legacy Park was instrumental in the **J.L. Mann High School boys cross country team** securing the South Carolina state championship.



"We began using Legacy Park when construction at Reedy Laurel Elementary School forced us out of the J.L. Mann athletic complex," explained Head Coach Evan Jones. "Legacy Park was a natural choice for us, being close to the school and many team members." The team rosters around 75 players in seventh through senior grades. They can be found training in the park most mornings.

The park environment is well-suited to the team's workout routine. Grass is a benefit for injury-free training. Proximity to the Swamp Rabbit Trail provides a clean, safe, flat surface for virtually unlimited distance running.

Legacy Park complements Jones' coaching philosophy. The athletic program is about "way more than winning." Coaching boys into being young men "is what I'm here to do," Jones said. "It starts with personal responsibility, accountability, getting up early and showing up when nobody else wants to do that. Starting your day doing something hard." These are basic life lessons and life skills "they will use in college, in their work life, in relationships."

The team won the South Carolina 5A Division I cross country championship for 2025-26, beating Lexington High School decisively and topping every other team in the state. “We had ten athletes who are as good as anyone in the state. I have a lot of respect for our competition, but more of our guys had a better day that day."

Coach Jones credits former head coach Jonathan Smith with building a solid team performance foundation with a "team before me" culture. Team members "believe in each other to the point where they run harder to make sure that their teammates do well, than for their personal satisfaction.” Legacy Park too has had a key contributing role. "It certainly helps that the park is a beautiful place, inspiring and uplifting."

Legacy Park Spruce-Up Volunteer Days

Two Legacy Park clean-up-spruce-up events, organized by the City of Greenville, are scheduled in September and November. These events offer an opportunity for Park patrons to give back to the Park by helping to maintain its high standard of care and attractiveness.

Volunteers are always and urgently needed at these events. The more hands participating, the easier the job for all.





Make a donation of an hour or two to this worthwhile activity and reap the benefits all year long.

Fall Volunteer Days
Saturday, September 26, 9-11 am
Tuesday, November 3, 9-11 am

Information and registration:
https://www.greenvillesc.gov/parks-volunteer-opportunities

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Donor information current as of August 31, 2026

PLEASE DONATE

Legacy Park Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to sustaining and improving the appeal, appearance, and functionality of Legacy Park.

EIN 86-1806455

Legacy Park Friends

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legacyparkfriends.com

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legacyparkfriends.com/give

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