

June 2003  
Vol. X, Number 2

**CITY COUNCIL**

- Lark Jones, Mayor
- Jimmy Adams
- Carolyn Baggott
- Pat Carpenter
- Phil Mottel
- Ken McDowell
- Arthur Shealy

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

are held every first & third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building, 400 East Buena Vista Avenue. Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings.



**North Augusta**  
*South Carolina's Riverfront*

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# North Augusta

## FORWARD

**A Publication for the Citizens of North Augusta, South Carolina**

### PARKS & RECREATION

*Master Plan*


Last month, after almost a year of work, the final draft of the North Augusta Parks and Recreation Master Plan was presented to the City Council. Prepared by the planning and engineering firm, Woolpert, LLC, the plan recommends priorities for North Augusta parks, recreation facilities and recreation programs through the year 2015. The recommendations are based on extensive community input, an evaluation of current programs and facilities, and a comparison of North Augusta's facilities and programs with national and state standards. The Master Plan is a flexible document designed to provide a framework the City Council can use to better maintain and enhance the city's parks and recreation system and meet the growing needs of the community.

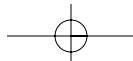
The plan recommends that a number of new parks be developed in the coming years. A regional park of approximately 200 acres, a district park of about 60 acres, four community parks of 10 acres, and six neighborhood parks of two to five acres are on the list. Locations for new parks have not yet been identified. However, the plan recommends that parks be located so that they are accessible to all parts of the city. A regional park is a major facility and would serve a population of approximately 45,000, an area well beyond the city limits. A district park is similar in size and amenities as Riverview Park. Summerfield Park is a good example of a community park and the new Walnut Lane Park is a neighborhood park.

Other recommended park facilities are more specialized. The proposed riverfront park to provide public access to the river is strongly recommended. Access points for canoes and kayaks should be included. A cultural and performing arts facility, a conference center in the riverfront development, and a competitive level swimming facility are included in the plan. Passive parks including a town square (based on the original 1891 plan for North Augusta), an open space area on the corner of Georgia Avenue and Martintown Road, new sections of the Greenway and more Greenway connectors are also strongly encouraged.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan also suggests that existing parks and facilities be improved in a number of ways. Recommended park improvements include new play equipment, more picnic shelters, better signage and lighting, more parking, and more trails and sidewalks for better access. The Community Center and Activities Center should be upgraded and expanded. Ultimately the Activities Center could include four additional basketball courts. Detailed proposals for the improvement of Riverview Park include a new, larger playground with an interactive water feature, indoor and outdoor pools, state of the art baseball and softball complexes, a new tennis complex, and other modifications.

Implementation of the Master Plan, budgeted at approximately \$57 million, will occur in several phases. Funding for new parks and facilities and for renovations to existing facilities will be generated through a variety of sources including city and county sales tax revenues, park and recreation fees, state and federal grants, corporate sponsorships, and public/private partnerships. The plan also recommends cost savings through cooperation with the Aiken County Public Schools and possibly Aiken County for the joint use and maintenance of existing facilities.

A copy of the complete document including detailed descriptions, maps and budgeted timelines is available on the city's website at [www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net) or by calling Bob Brooks, Director of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services at 803-441-4300. 



# CODE COMPLIANCE

## Issues

Many North Augusta citizens contact the city with questions about regulations that affect the use of private property and with concerns about whether certain properties comply with these regulations. This article briefly describes a few of the most common complaints, violations and the rules that apply to each.

### Property Maintenance

Last year more than one hundred citizens contacted the city's Zoning and Code Compliance Office with concerns or complaints about the maintenance of residential property. The North Augusta Municipal Code regulates some property maintenance issues. Under certain conditions overgrown yards and residential vegetation, any accumulation of litter, trash or debris and the storage of inoperable or unregistered vehicles are code violations.

### Vehicle and Equipment Storage


The Code also regulates the parking and storage of recreational vehicles and equipment, large trucks, trailers and other major transportation equipment. Recreational vehicles and equipment may be parked anywhere on residential premises, streets or other public right-of-way for a maximum of five days in any one thirty-day period. For periods of more than five days, recreational vehicles and equipment must be stored in a carport, enclosed building or behind the building line of the primary building closest to the street. Large transport trucks and similar heavy transportation equipment may not be parked on a public right-of-way for any period longer than twenty-four hours or for any period in the front yard of any residentially zoned lot.

### Temporary Signs

Many questions relate to the use of temporary signs. Many temporary signs are permitted on private residential property including those that advertise yard sales, real estate for sale or rent, special events and political candidates. Permits are not required for most temporary signs and the maximum allowable size of a temporary sign in a residential area varies. Six square feet is generally the maximum. For safety reasons, signs located on private property must not block driver visibility along a road or at an intersection.

Temporary signs may not be posted on any public property or within any public right-of-way (sidewalk, street, street median, park, etc.). It is also unlawful to paste, paint, tack or place any handbill, circular, picture or other advertising material on any bridge, lamppost, fence, corner post or utility pole. Signs posted in the right-of-way and on utility poles and lampposts clutter the appearance of a roadway and pose potential hazards by distracting motorists.

The city's code compliance inspector regularly removes signs that are improperly posted on public property and within public rights-of-way. Signs found to be in violation and creating a potential hazard, whether on public or private property, may be removed immediately and without notification.

Questions on these and other city code provisions that affect the use of private property may be submitted to Matthew Taylor, Zoning and Code Compliance Inspector, at 803-441-4258. 

# EMPLOYEES

## Recognized

Tina Craig, Secretary for the Criminal Investigations Division of the Department of Public Safety, was recently recognized by the North Augusta Employee

Recognition Committee as

the Employee of the

Quarter for the fourth

quarter of 2002.

Tina's consistent out-

standing service

earned her the honor.



Other 2002 Employee of the

Quarter award recipients were John Taylor, Sanitation Supervisor, Robert Pitcock, Utility Service

Technician, and Jimmy Butler, Crew Leader, Riverview Park Activities Center. Animal Control

Officer Mike Strauss, Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2001, was named the 2002

Employee of the Year at the city's annual Employee Luncheon in December. The 2003 Employee of the

Year will be selected from the employee selected for the fourth quarter of 2002 and the employees rec-

ognized in the first three quarters of 2003.

North Augusta's Employee

Recognition Program

was established in

1996 to honor

employees who dis-

tinguish themselves

through unique accom-

plishments, cost-saving

efforts, customer service and consis-

tent performance above normal expectations. A

committee of city employees accepts nominations

from city employees and citizens and selects an out-

standing employee each quarter. All Employees of

the Quarter receive a plaque, a gift certificate to

SMS Sportsworld and a Chamber Bucks certificate.

For more information or to nominate an employee, please call 441-4301. 



# STORMWATER MANAGER *Hired*


The city of North Augusta recently welcomed David Caddell as the city's first official Stormwater Manager. David earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Biology from Clemson University.

For the past seven years he has been employed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, (SCDHEC), most recently as Manager of Wastewater and Stormwater programs.



As North Augusta's Stormwater Manager, David is responsible for ensuring the city's compliance with regulations enforced by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and SCDHEC under the Clean Water Act. The regulations require states and local governments to manage stormwater to prevent pollution. Every municipality is required to develop and implement a Stormwater Management Program that addresses six specific areas.

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Elimination of Illicit Discharges
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Management
- Post-Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Management
- Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

David lives in Edgefield, South Carolina, with wife Trista and three year old daughter Alana. He can be reached at 803-441-4246 or email [dcaddell@northaugusta.net](mailto:dcaddell@northaugusta.net). 

# STORMWATER POLLUTION *Prevention*


In an effort to increase public awareness of stormwater pollution prevention, the city's Stormwater Management Department has begun a program of installing markers on storm drainage inlets. The markers are brightly colored with a fish or frog logo and the message "No Dumping, Drains To River." The message advises citizens NOT to dump waste into storm drains.



Careless dumping of used oil, antifreeze, household chemicals, and other waste down storm drains has become a common pollution problem. Often people do not realize that enormous amounts of pollution come from the accumulation of individual citizen actions, not just from industry. They do not understand that storm drains connect directly to local streams, lakes, beaches or ground water aquifers. Most people will protect these waterways because they value clean water for drinking, recreation, and for fish and wildlife habitat.

Public education and outreach is a critical part of the city's Stormwater Management Program as required by the US Environmental Protection Agency. As the program grows the city hopes to provide opportunities for individual volunteers and civic groups to become involved and to help out by applying the curb markers in needed locations.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

To further reduce the improper disposal of pollutants, the city will host a "Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day" on July 26. The event will be held in the parking lot of Crossroads Market Shopping Center (the Kroger grocery store) on Martintown Road from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. A hazardous waste handler will be on site to accept potential pollutants including paint, motor oil, solvents, pesticides, cleaners and other chemical solutions. There will be a limited capacity for the amount of waste received, so residents should come early. The collection event is intended for North Augusta residents only. Waste from businesses or other large generators of hazardous waste will not be accepted. For more information call Stormwater Manager David Caddell at 441-4246. 


# EXTREME *Lease*

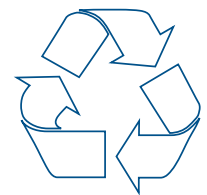


On May 19 the North Augusta City Council approved the construction of a skate park. Supporters of a skateboarding facility, including several members of the City Council, have advocated the project for several years. Under the terms of a lease agreement between the city and the Hammond Hills Suburban Club, the city will make improvements to an unused tennis court site, owned by the Club, for use as the skate park. The new park will be located adjacent to the Hammond Hills swimming pool on Cypress Drive near the Greenway.

When complete the park will be open to skateboarders, rollerbladers and BMX cyclists of all ages. Admission to the park will require both a nominal annual membership fee and a fee for each session. In addition to access to the park, the fees will provide members with a supplemental insurance policy. The park will be gated and supervised at all times and all

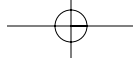
skaters and cyclists will be required to wear protective equipment.

Park construction is scheduled to begin in early July and be complete in August. Available funds will provide for new pavement where needed, pavement sealant and fencing. Additional funding through grants and sponsorships will be necessary to add ramps and complete the project. A committee of city employees, youth skaters and ramp building professionals will evaluate all of the ramps and the park facility for safety during construction and periodically after the park is open. 



**NORTH  
AUGUSTA**  
*Recycles*





# NEW ON THE NET



North Augusta's website, [www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net), is a continuous work in progress with new information and features regularly added to provide accurate and current public service information about North Augusta to North Augustans. In 2001, a mapping feature was added enabling site visitors to view and search city zoning maps for specific parcel information. In January 2002, a new feature allowed North Augusta property owners and utility customers to view and pay property tax and utility bills online. The online payment option was recently enhanced to allow customers to review billing and payment history and to track water consumption over the past year. Updated summer camp information with a printable registration form, a regularly updated calendar of upcoming community events and a new page of links to many local, state and federal agencies and organizations were also recently added to the site. Visit and explore [www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net).

## UPCOMING Events

A variety of exciting and enjoyable cultural and sporting events are planned for North Augusta this year.

**Thursday, June 26 – Music in the Park**, 7:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Lake Avenue. A free community concert sponsored by the North Augusta Cultural Arts Council. For more information call 442-7588.

**Thursday, July 10 – Music in the Park**, 7:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Lake Avenue.

**Sunday, July 13-Thursday, July 17 – NIKE AAU PeachJam Basketball Tournament.** Featuring the best high school basketball players in the country showcasing their talents for major college coaches at North Augusta's Riverview Park Activities Center. Admission \$5. For more information call 441-4305.

**Thursday, July 24 – Music in the Park**, Candlelight Concert, 8:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Lake Avenue.


**Monday, September 1 – Rest Fest 2000**, 3:00-9:30 p.m., Riverview Park, 100 Riverview Park Drive. This annual Labor Day event features live music, crafts, children's rides and activities, great food and a fireworks show. For more information call 441-4300.

**Saturday, October 11 & Sunday, October 12 – A Day to Remember**, Camp opens 10:00 a.m., Creighton Living History Park, Lake Avenue. North Augusta's colonial past comes to life at this weekend long Colonial Trades Fair and Militia Muster. The North Augusta Olde Towne Association sponsors this event. For more information call 279-1327 or 279-7560.

**Saturday, October 25 – Jack-o-Lantern Jubilee**, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Downtown North Augusta. Dress up the kids and join the festivities. This event features a haunted house, live entertainment, crafts, rides, antique cars, costume contests and fun for the whole family. For more information call 441-4300.

**Monday, December 1 – Christmas Tree Lighting**, 6:00 p.m., John C. Calhoun Park. Local church and school groups perform holiday carols while the city tree is illuminated. Jolly Old St. Nick is usually a surprise guest! For more information call 441-4300.

**Thursday, December 4 – Carols in the Park**, 6:00 p.m., Creighton Living History Park, Lake Avenue. North Augusta area church and school choirs usher in the holiday season in this lush, natural setting. For more information call 441-4300.

**Sunday, December 7 – Christmas Parade**, 3:00 p.m., Downtown North Augusta. A Christmas tradition. Sponsored by the North Augusta Lions Club and the City of North Augusta. 

### TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

<b>POLICE &amp; FIRE EMERGENCY</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	
Non Emergency	279-2121
Administration	441-4251
Records/Court Services	441-4271
Investigations	441-4274
<b>PARKS, RECREATION &amp; LEISURE SERVICES</b>	
Riverview Park Activities Center	441-4300
Activities Coordinator	441-4311
Community Center	441-4290
<b>GENERAL SERVICES AND FINANCE</b>	
Taxes	441-4215
Utility - New Service/Disconnects	441-4219
Utility Billing Services	441-4212
Business Licenses (Non-Contractor)	441-4214
Human Resources	441-4205
<b>ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS</b>	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Engineering	441-4223
Building Standards	441-4227
Permits	441-4227
Business Licenses (Contractors)	441-4227
Animal Control	441-4227
Sanitation Services	441-4223
Sanitation - New Service	441-4219
Stormwater Management	441-4246
<b>PUBLIC UTILITIES</b>	
After-Hours Emergencies	279-2121
Utility - New Service/Disconnects	441-4219
Utility Billing	441-4212
Water and Sewer Repairs	441-4240
Streets & Drains Repairs	441-4240
<b>ECONOMIC &amp; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Economic Development	441-4221
Planning	441-4221
Zoning	441-4221
Codes Enforcement	441-4258
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	
Mayor	441-4202
City Administrator	441-4202
<b>OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS</b>	
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce	279-2323
Nancy Carson Library	279-5767
North Augusta Health Center	278-3621
Comcast (cable)	706-733-7712
S. C. Electric & Gas	442-2000
BellSouth	780-2355
S. C. Department of Transportation	1-800-442-1368
Magistrate	202-3580



**CITY of NORTH AUGUSTA**  
400 East Buena Vista Avenue  
PO Box 6400  
North Augusta, SC 29861-6400

[www.northaugusta.net](http://www.northaugusta.net)

North Augusta Forward is mailed quarterly to every city water customer. If your address is incorrect or if you're not receiving a copy of this publication and would like to be added to the mailing list, please write to:

**North Augusta Forward,**  
P. O. Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29861-6400  
or call 803-441-4221.

