

THE

January, February, March 2024

PARK BENCH

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF AIKEN
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM



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MISSION: To enhance the lives of our residents and guests by providing meaningful parks, recreation and tourism opportunities.

VISION: Experience a community connected through people, parks and programs.

The City of Aiken PRT Department invites people of all ability levels to enjoy programs, parks, and facilities. Individuals needing special assistance to participate should notify PRT Administrative Office 48 hours in advance.

Registration

Register for programs, activities, and events at each respective facility or online at <https://cityofaikensc.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

Wellness Membership

Wellness Membership entitles participants to have unlimited access to the fitness room, basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and racquetball at select recreation centers.

FAMILY OF 4: \$400 (annual), \$225 (6 months), \$125 (3 months), \$45 (1 month) *Additional family members \$10 each*

INDIVIDUAL: \$200 (annual), \$125 (6 months), \$75 (3 months)

SENIOR (50+)/VETERAN: \$150 (annual), \$100 (6 months), \$60 (3 months), \$25 (1 month) *Terms and conditions apply*

Individual Day Pass: Enjoy all of the wellness membership benefits for the day by purchasing a day pass.

Odell Weeks Activities Center

- \$2: Access to Basketball, Pickleball, Volleyball, or Racquetball
- \$5: Access to Fitness Room, Basketball, Pickleball, Volleyball, Racquetball

Smith-Hazel Recreation Center

- \$2: Access to Pickleball, Basketball, or Volleyball

Free Annual Student Pass: Access to Pickleball, Basketball, or Volleyball for ages 18 years old and under

- 12 years old and under must be accompanied by a guardian of at least 13 years old
- An adult parent/guardian must sign a waiver of liability for each participant

Monthly Classes

All monthly classes must be registered and paid for by the first class date of the month. Registration taken later in the month will not be prorated.

ALL CITY OF AIKEN PARKS ARE TOBACCO-FREE!

Tobacco-Free Park Policy

No person shall use tobacco products in city-owned parks or outside the immediate entrance to these facilities.

Definitions

For this policy, tobacco use is defined as smoking, chewing, dipping, dissolvable, lighting or any other use of tobacco-like products. Examples include cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, pipes, and any other product or item containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products.

CITY OF AIKEN PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMISSIONS

City of Aiken Recreation Commission

January 16 and March 19

Mission: To serve as a liaison between the city residents and program participants and the Aiken City Council to ensure the development and provision of appropriate, quality recreation facilities, services, and programs.

Suzanne Haslup	Susan Schifer
Lori Comshaw	John Wallace
John Pettigrew	Glenn Parker

City of Aiken Senior Commission

January 16 and March 19

Mission: To make recommendations to the Aiken City Council and to encourage implementation of improvements to advance the well-being of seniors (those over 50 years of age) in Aiken.

Aimee Hanna	William Price
Kathy Heath	Laura Thomas
Margaret Kopp	Scott Truitt
Bonita Peele	

City of Aiken Arts Commission

February 7

Mission: To utilize its collective resources to foster communication and coordination among area cultural arts organizations. The commission also makes recommendations to the Design Review Board on proposed art installations within the old Aiken overlay zone.

Cody Anderson	Tiffany Palmer
Caroline Gwinn	Catherine Thomas
Wendy Hirsch	Vacancy
BonnieAnne Fulghum	



We are Accredited! The City of Aiken Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department was recently accredited through NRPA's Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). This distinguished accomplishment was recognized during the 2023 National Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference in Dallas, TX. As part of the accreditation process, the Department had to demonstrate compliance with 154 national standards. Often the process helps identify efficiencies and heighten areas of accountability, all of which translate into higher quality service and operation to benefit the community. We are proud to attain this achievement!

Visit www.nrpa.org/certification/accreditation/CAPRA/ for more information on the Commission and Accreditation



Fun Funds

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

The City of Aiken Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department is pleased to offer financial aid to youth 18 years and under to participate in the activity of their choice through Fun Funds! A parent or legal guardian must apply and submit the required documents for each child to receive \$100 per fiscal year. Look for the Fun Funds logo on eligible programs.

Applications can be picked up and returned with the required documents (2 weeks prior to the start of the desired activity) at any of the city facilities listed below:

- Odell Weeks Activities Center
- Smith-Hazel Recreation Center
- Citizens Park II
- Weeks Tennis Center
- Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center

Stay In Touch!

Channel 4 The City of Aiken has launched its new streaming channel, "4Aiken." It can be viewed on Apple TV, Roku, and Amazon Fire devices and on the City website at www.cityofaikensc.gov/4aiken. The new streaming service offers viewers access to City Council meetings, videos of past events, and other city-related content to inform residents of what's happening in their community.

Website For all City of Aiken information and activities, visit www.CityofAikenSC.gov, www.VisitAikenSC.com, www.AikenRacingHallofFame.com

Social Media Please visit us on social media! Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @AikenParksRec and #AikenParksAndRec; and for tourism @VisitAikenSC across all platforms. [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Rain Out information City of Aiken Parks, Recreation & Tourism uses the City of Aiken Explorer App and RainedOut.com for notifications of delays and cancellations. City of Aiken Explorer v.1.2.4 app provides an opportunity to receive instant notifications as soon as decisions are made.

TextMyGov Our latest communication tool TextMyGov, is now available at your fingertips. By texting keywords or key phrases

AIKEN COUNTY FARMERS MARKET FAQs

115 Williamsburg Street SE (between Richland and Park)
(803) 507-8372 • farmersmarket@cityofaikensc.gov

- What are the hours?** Year-Round
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Saturdays: 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- What types of items are sold?** Local produce, meat, eggs, honey, baked goods, and handmade crafts. For specific inquiries, please visit the Aiken Farmers Market group page on Facebook and post a comment/question. Vendors and City of Aiken staff monitor the page.
- What items are allowed?** Local produce, meat, eggs, honey, baked goods, and handmade crafts. No name brand (e.g. Paparazzi, Mary Kay, Avon, etc.) or other items that are not handmade or locally grown/produced.
- Are non-profit organizations allowed?** Yes, but they must be related to farming, food, etc. and must provide a copy of their 501 © (3) or other tax exempt status. Please email farmersmarket@cityofaikensc.gov or call (803) 507-8372 for more information.
- How do you become a vendor?** The process of becoming a vendor can take up to two weeks. Vendors must complete and submit a vendor application, participation agreement, and other requirements/licenses if applicable. Please email farmersmarket@cityofaikensc.gov or call (803) 507-8372 for more information.
- Do you accept SNAP Benefits?** Yes, you can purchase SNAP tokens at the Farmers Market on open days between 7:30 – 11:30 a.m. When you purchase \$5.00 in SNAP tokens, you get an additional \$15.00 in Healthy Bucks to use on produce.

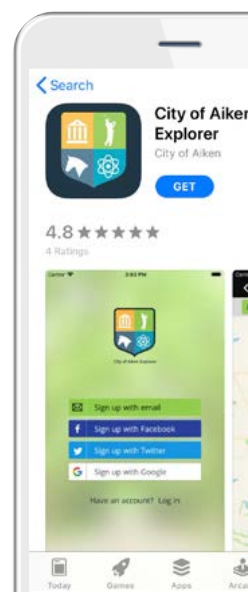


like "Athletics" or "Parks" to (803) 989-7779, you can connect directly with the City of Aiken Parks, Recreation, and Tourism landing page on the city website and view extensive information about our department. Text "Play" to view the Park Bench publication and watch the Park Bench video. Or, access a list of existing keywords by texting the phrase "menu". Sign up and opt-in for rain cancellations by texting AIKENRAINALERT to 91896. Reply 'YES' to opt-in and to opt-out at any time; text STOP. TextMyGov—connecting citizens and government, one text at a time!



Download the City of Aiken Explorer App

- Using your smart phone, go to the App Store and download City of Aiken Explorer.
- Sign up and enable notifications. Citizens may also call the Rainout Hotline for information (803) 643-4661 or follow the City of Aiken PRT social media accounts.



Special Events

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBIT

Celebrate the contributions made by Aiken's African-American community in Thoroughbred racing.

Friday, February 1 – 28, during regular business hours

AGES: All | **COST:** Free

Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum

Call (803) 642-7631 for more information.

BLACK HISTORY CONCERT

Join us for the 14th annual Black History Concert. Enjoy an evening of lively music performed by local artists as we celebrate Black History Month! Take part in dancing and refreshments, and win door prizes. Tickets can be purchased at the Odell Weeks Activities Center, and Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center.

Saturday, February 24, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

AGES: All children must be accompanied by an adult

COST: \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door

(Purchase Tickets: January 12 – February 18. Tickets are limited)

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center

Call (803) 642-7634 for more information.

TAKE-A-HIKE!

Join us for a guided group hike. Learn about the best places for hikes in and near Aiken, hiking tips and tricks, and hear stories from hikers of all ages and experiences.

Saturday, March 2, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

This event is free, and all ages are welcome! Adults must accompany children 13 and under. Participants will receive light refreshments and snacks! Sign up now at the Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior and Youth Center or the Odell Weeks Activities Center. Registration is required, and space is limited. Registration ends February 28.

AGES: All | **COST:** Free

This hike will take place in Hitchcock Woods.

Call (803) 643-2181 for more information.

MOVIE IN THE PARK

Movie in the Park will be held at the beautiful Generations Park. Pack your blankets and lawn chairs to grab a seat on the amphitheater lawn. Food vendors will be on-site so you can enjoy a snack with this family-friendly film.

Saturday, March 9

Gates open at 6:00 p.m.; Movie begins around 7:00 p.m. (at dusk)

AGES: All | **COST:** Free Admission

Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park

Call (803) 642-7631 for more information.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Make plans now to come to Family Game Night at the Aiken Senior Youth Center! Join us for Bingo, Minute to Win It games, and more. Refreshments will be served, and prizes are up for grabs for all winners!

Friday, March 15, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Registration required.

AGES: All | **COST:** \$5 per person or \$18 for a family of four.

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center

Call (803) 643-2181 for more information.

HOPELANDS CONCERT SERIES

Monday evenings this spring and summer, Hopelands Gardens hosts a variety of outdoor performances. Bring your lawn chair and a picnic dinner to enjoy the many musical styles. Event parking is located at the Green Boundary Club.

Mondays in April at 6:30 p.m.; Mondays in May and June at 7:00 p.m.

AGES: All | **COST:** Free

Windham Performing Arts Stage, Hopelands Gardens

(Rainout location: Odell Weeks Center)

Call (803) 642-7650 for more information.

AIKEN ART WALK

The Aiken Art Walk is a beloved tradition that showcases a diverse range of art by local artists, including paintings, sculptures, jewelry, and more. This exciting event takes place on the sidewalks of downtown, where you can also enjoy a variety of live music and performing arts. Additionally, downtown shops will be open late, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the event.

Tuesday, April 9, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

AGES: All | **COST:** Free Admission

Downtown Aiken

Call (803) 293-7846 for more information.



BACKSTRETCH EXPERIENCE

Discover the magic of training Thoroughbred racehorses with this behind the scenes experience! The Aiken Training Track and the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame & Museum are partnering to offer this exciting experience! (Meet at the Rye Patch Parking Lot, 100 Berrie Road, at 7:45 a.m. to load on a minibus to the Aiken Training Track.)

Saturday, January 13, 8:00 – 10:15 a.m.

AGES: 16 and older | **COST:** \$20 per person

Aiken Training Track

(803) 642-7631, 803-643-2121, halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov

HISTORIC STABLE & BARN EXPERIENCE

Walk in the hoof prints of racing immortals like Kelso, Swale, Pleasant Colony, Tom Fool, Gallorette, Shuvee, and many more! See the locations of the most iconic racing stables that have trained their horses in Aiken. The Aiken Training Track and the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame & Museum are partnering to offer this exciting experience! (Meet at the Rye Patch Parking Lot, 100 Berrie Road, at 7:45 a.m. to load on a minibus to the Aiken Training Track)

Saturday, February 10, 8:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

AGES: 16 and older | **COST:** \$25 per person

Aiken Training Track

(803) 642-7631, 803-643-2121, halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov

BREAKFAST AT THE GALLOPS

Enjoy breakfast at the Aiken Training Track, meet the trainers, and watch Aiken's future racing stars work out. Breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m.

Friday, March 15, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

AGES: All

COST: \$20 per person in advance, \$25 per person at the gate.

Tickets go on sale January 11.

Aiken Training Track

(803) 642-7631, 803-643-2121, halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov

JAMES SMILEY EXHIBIT

In celebration of Black History Month, an exhibit celebrating the contributions made by Aiken's African-American Community to the equine industry. The exhibit will include highlights from the careers of Wilbert "Boots" Breland who was a rider for Mrs. Ambrose Clark in the 1940's, Charlie Carter, a long time groom for Greentree Stable and Jimmy "Wink" Winkfield who worked for Pete Bostwick and was the last African-American jockey to win the Kentucky Derby (1902)

Time: During regular museum hours

Date: February 1 – 29

AGES: All | **COST:** Free

Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame

803-642-7631, 803-643-2121, halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov



COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Here comes Peter Cottontail, hopping down the bunny trail! Celebrate Easter with us! Plenty of eggs to hunt, games, and tons of Easter fun! In the event of inclement weather, a drive-thru event will take place at the Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center.

Saturday, March 23, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

AGES: 10 & Under | **COST:** Free

Perry Memorial Park

Call (803) 642-7631 for more information



Recreation Activities

Basic Dog Training

Odell Weeks Activities Center • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Session dates vary. Call for current/future dates.

AGES: All **COST:** \$125

Do you wish your dog's manners were a little more polished? Dogs approximately five months and older will learn the basic commands of come, sit, down, stay, wait, stand, etc. Topics will include basic care of dogs and what to expect as training progresses. Dogs must be current on rabies vaccination and registered with the City of Aiken if residing within city limits.

Dog Games and Tricks Class

Citizens Park • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Session dates vary. Call for current/future dates.

AGES: All **COST:** \$130

This six-week course is for dogs that have completed a basic training class. The class will challenge what you and your canine companion have learned and will strengthen your dog's ability to follow your commands while having FUN! Dogs must be current on rabies vaccination and registered with the City of Aiken if residing within city limits.

Pickleball at the Odell Weeks Activities Center

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Gym 2 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Dates & times vary; Visit www.aikenpickleball.com for a schedule

AGES: All **COST:** \$2 daily OR Free with Membership

Pickleball is a fun sport combining fundamentals of tennis and ping pong on a space the size of a badminton court and is one of the fastest-growing sports in America. It's fast-paced and easy to learn. Plus, it's great exercise and good for all ages! We have all the equipment you need to begin, including a designated beginners' court. Just bring yourself!

Pickleball Clinics & Lessons

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Gym 2 & Smith-Hazel Recreation Center, Gym.
Cost, dates, & times vary. See the front desk for details or visit www.aikenpickleball.com for a schedule.

Need an introduction to the sport of pickleball or want to advance your skills? Learn the rules and get great pointers for improvement. Paddles and balls are provided. Each clinic is limited to 4 players. Sign up for clinics at the Odell Weeks Activities Center front desk. Schedule private or semi-private lessons with trained professionals at www.aikenpickleball.com

Puppy Class (AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program)

Odell Weeks Activities Center • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Session dates vary. Call for current/future dates.

AGES: All **COST:** \$120

This class is a six-week course of instruction for puppies ten weeks to twenty weeks of age. The puppy class is designed to provide owners with tools to handle a new puppy. Puppies will learn various skills and commands, and take the S.T.A.R. Puppy Test at the end of the course. Puppies must have a record of 2 sets of shots.

Racquetball

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Racquetball Court • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays – Fridays, 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.; Sundays, 1:00 – 4:45 p.m. Reservations recommended.

AGES: 14 & up (14 – 17 year olds must be accompanied by an adult)

COST: \$2 daily or free with membership

Partner up and join us at Odell Weeks Activities Center for this intense indoor sport! Observation deck available for spectators. Reservations are recommended. For those looking for some competition, ask us about the "Ladder Challenge."

Table Tennis

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Wednesdays 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.;

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (appointment only); Sundays, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

AGES: All **COST:** Free

Also known as Ping Pong, Table Tennis is a fun and competitive sport that dates back to the early 1900s when it was played as a parlor game after dinner. Join the Aiken Table Tennis Club for lots of modern-day fun! To speak with an Aiken Table Tennis Club representative, call Rick Sullivan at (803) 270-6018.

**SIGN UP
YOUR FURRY
FRIEND TODAY!**

Our exceptional training classes cater to both puppies and adult dogs.



SUPPORT GROUPS

Alzheimer's Dementia

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Second Tuesday of every month
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

AGES: All **COST:** Free

Lewybody Dementia

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Third Tuesday of every month,
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

AGES: All **COST:** Free



FUN & GAMES

Bid Whist

AGES: All COST: Free

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Bingo!

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Wednesdays, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.;
Fridays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

AGES: All COST: \$5 and up

Score \$5 gift cards for area businesses
in this fun-for-all race to shout "BINGO!"

Board Games

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 4
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

AGES: All COST: Free

Join us for classic, Euro, strategy games and
more! Snacks are welcome.

Brain Games

AGES: All COST: Free

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Gather and socialize while challenging and
exercising your brain with crosswords, word
search, Sudoku, adult coloring, and more.

Bridge

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.;
Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Canasta

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 4
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Tuesdays & Fridays, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Chess Club

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Wednesdays & Fridays, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

AGES: All COST: Free

Novice and veteran players are welcome
to engage in friendly competition and learn tips
and tricks of the game.

Mahjong

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Thursdays, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Pinochle

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



ARCHERY

Youth Archery League

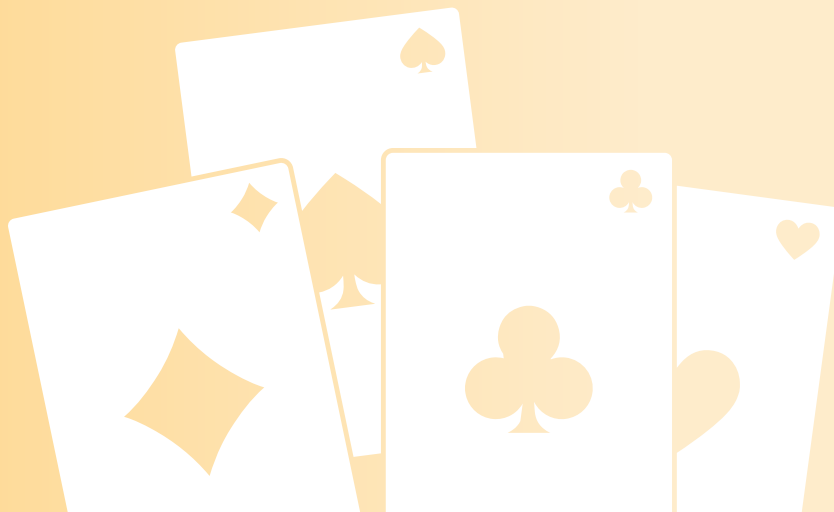
Odell Weeks Activities Center,
Gym 1 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Wednesdays,
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
from January 3 – March 20, 2024

AGES: Up to 18, must be able to
pull bow back safely

COST: \$125

Open to beginners and
experienced participants,
students will learn
archery history, safety,
technique, equipment,
mental concentration, and
self-improvement from
professionals with nearly
60 years of combined
successful coaching
experience. The equipment
provided is state-of-the-art
and designed to fit every
student. Instructor Roger
Pizio can be reached at
(803) 270-2254.



Volunteer + Sponsorship Opportunities

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING
OR SPONSORING?

Please contact any of our recreational facilities for more
information. We need volunteers to assist with special events,
front desk coverage, coaches for athletic programs, and more.

For sponsorship information, visit
www.cityofaikensc.gov/sponsorship.

For volunteer opportunities, visit
www.governmentjobs.com/careers/aikensc

Fitness

Boot Camp!

Odell Weeks Activities Center • LoriComshaw.com • Call/Text (803) 443-9771

DATES: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5:15 – 6:00 p.m.

AGES: 14 & up (teens age 14 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult)

COST: \$45 per month; \$10 daily

Transform your body with high-intensity cardio and circuit training in a welcoming atmosphere. You will use kettlebells, Swiss balls, battle ropes, Pilates, TRX, and more. This workout will help you get in shape and maintain current fitness levels.

Fitness Court

Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park • (803) 642-7631

Get fit for free and have fun while doing it! Head on over to Generations Park and try out the Fitness Court's 7 Station design. With a range of exercises to choose from, you're sure to find your perfect workout.

Fitness Room

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Fitness Room • (803) 642-7631

AGES: 14 & up (teens aged 14 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult)

COST: Cost is included in the wellness membership and/or individual day pass fee.

Our small fitness room has some BIG advantages! We have at least one of everything you need. Our community atmosphere offers encouragement and accountability without the hassle of a contract.

Fitness Room Orientation

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Fitness Room

Call/Text (803) 443-9771 to schedule an appointment

AGES: 14 & up (teens age 14 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult)

COST: Free

Ready to work out, but just not sure where to get started? Learn what equipment works which muscle group, how to use it safely, and how to adjust it for your particular needs.

Indoor Walking

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center • (803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.; Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Walking improves cardiovascular fitness, strengthens your bones and muscles, and improves muscle endurance.

Outdoor Fitness

Virginia Acres Park • (803) 642-7631

Did you know that Virginia Acres Park features a next generation outdoor fitness zone, complete with 10 adjustable resistance machines? Check it out free of charge!

Personal Training

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Fitness Room

loricomshaw.com • Call/Text (803) 443-9771

We have Certified Personal Trainers available to help you take your workout to the next level in a one-on-one setting. Participants must have a valid wellness membership. Fees apply.

Yoga

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.; Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

AGES: 16 & up

COST: \$55 per 10 classes or \$7 daily

In this gentle mind/body workout you will strengthen and tone your body, improve your balance and flexibility, and calm your mind. Traditional yoga poses combined with soothing music will give your day a new focus.

Zumba

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays & Thursdays, 6:45 – 8:00 p.m.

AGES: 12 & up (participants 12 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult)

COST: \$40 for 10 classes or \$5 daily

There are many ways to lose weight. Some are just more fun. Join the ultimate dance-fitness party that beats a boring old workout any day with certified Zumba instructor, Bree Becker.

TENNIS

The Weeks Tennis Center has one Tennis Professional on staff and two certified contracted Tennis Professionals. Facilities include a Pro Shop, locker room and 20 tennis courts. For additional information or assistance please call the Weeks Tennis Center at 803-642-7739. Fees Apply.

Cardio Tennis

Class designed to get a cardio workout while playing tennis.

DATES: Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Shot of the Day

Clinic designed for one specific shot.

DATES: Fridays, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Intermediate + Advanced

For children ages 11–18, clinic designed to work on strokes and match play.

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Quick Start Tennis

A program sized just right for children.

DATES: Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

CSRA Ladies Morning League

A-Team: Mondays, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

B-Team: Tuesdays, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.; 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

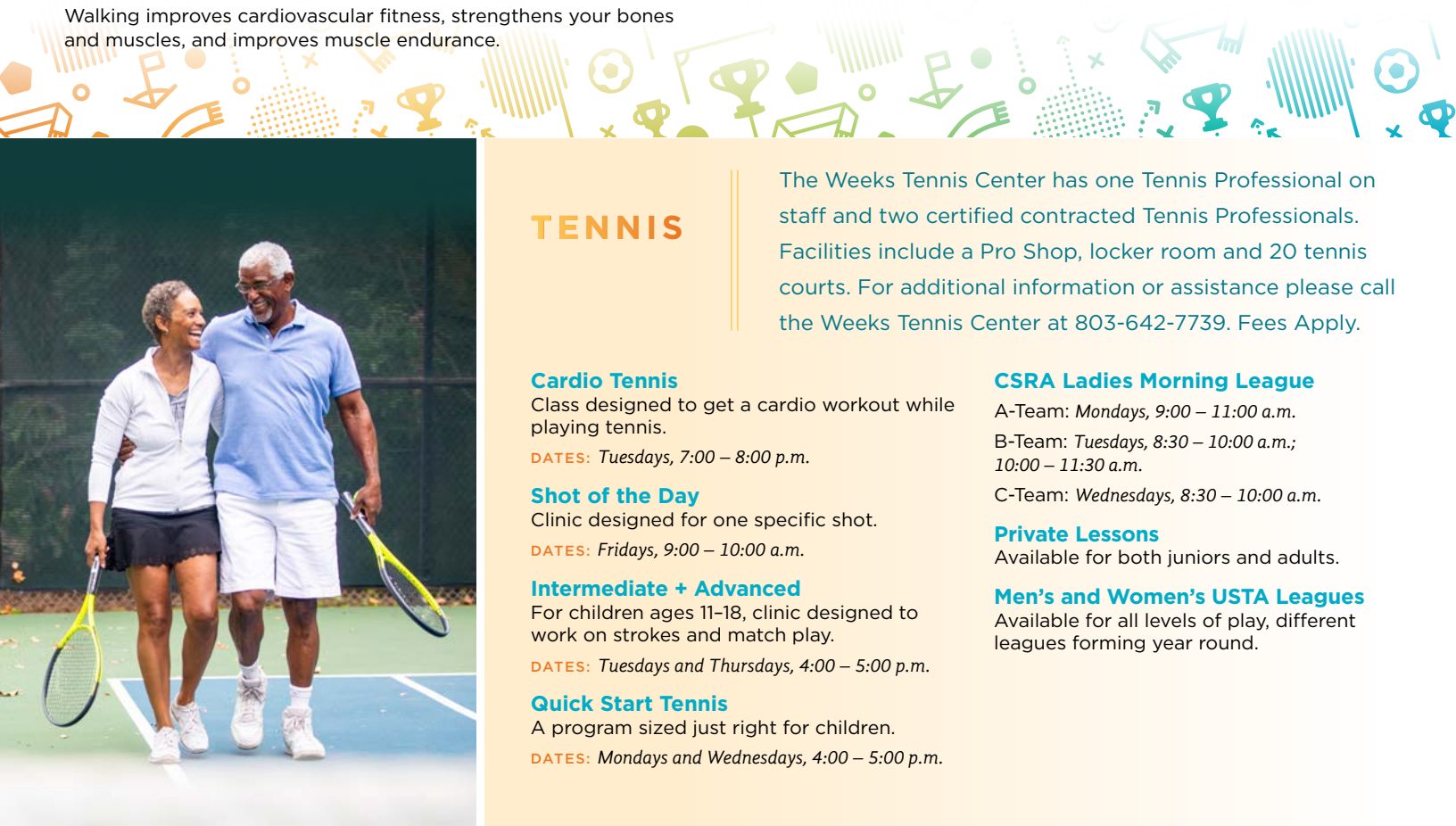
C-Team: Wednesdays, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Private Lessons

Available for both juniors and adults.

Men's and Women's USTA Leagues

Available for all levels of play, different leagues forming year round.



ATHLETICS

If you are looking for a great sport for your child to get involved in, The City of Aiken's Parks, Recreation and Tourism is the place to begin!

Odell Weeks Activities Center: 1700 Whiskey Road • (803) 642-7631

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Winter Volleyball

REGISTRATION: January 2 – 18

SEASON BEGINS: Late January

AGES: 9 – 14 (Age as of January 1, 2024)

COST: \$65

Are you interested
in becoming an
Official for the City
of Aiken? Contact
Citizens Park
(803) 642-7761!

Spring Sports Registration Odell Weeks Activities Center

DATES: January 23 – February 8.

SEASON BEGINS: March

AGES: Depending on the program below

COST: \$65 for Baseball, Softball, Flag Football

Baseball

Citizens Park (Complex 1 and 2)

Hit hard, Run fast, Turn left—Score!
MLB Replica Jersey and hat provided.

AGES: 4 – 18 as of May 1, 2024

COST: \$65

Flag Football

Citizens Park (Complex 1)

Touchdowns! First Down! DEFENSE!
Do not be caught off sides, sign up on time!
NFL Football style jersey provided.

AGES: 5 – 12 as of September 1, 2024

COST: \$65

Softball

Citizens Park (Complex 4)

Outplay, Outwork, Outlast! MLB Replica
Jersey and Visor provided.

AGES: 6 – 18 as of April 30, 2024

COST: \$65

Soccer

Citizens Park (Complex 3)

The City of Aiken is excited to announce its partnership with the Aiken Futbol Club for the Recreation Soccer League. Aiken Futbol Club will coordinate the program while maintaining the City of Aiken's recreation values and standards. Registration will take place on Aiken Futbol Club's website, www.aikenfc.com. Contact Tara Holtz at registrar@aikenfc.com for registration questions.

AGES: 4 – 18

COST: \$65

SPECIAL NOTE

Register online at <https://cityofaikensc.recdesk.com/Community/Home> or at the Odell Weeks Activities Center located at 1700 Whiskey Road.

Please bring a valid driver's license and birth certificate to the Odell Weeks office to update your household. If you have any questions, please call (803) 642-7631.

ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE WHO NEEDS TO UPDATE HIS OR HER INFORMATION!



The Better Sports for Kids Quality Program Provider designation, through the National Alliance for Youth Sports, has been developed around the National Standards for Youth Sports as a way to recognize and promote youth sports organizations that make quality a priority. The National Standards place in motion guidance for league and program administrators to implement to ensure the best possible youth sports experience for all.



Enrichment Programs

Aiken Saber Academy

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Fridays, 5:00 – 8:30 p.m. **AGES:** 14 & up

COST: \$25 per month or \$10 daily

Learn the sport of fencing using specialized lightsabers. In addition to fencing skills, you will learn self-discipline, focus, and other values taught in martial arts. Basic and advanced classes are available.

Beading with Diane

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 4 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Select Thursdays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

AGES: 14 & up **COST:** \$20 per class

Learn to make one-of-a-kind beaded jewelry. You will leave with a finished piece to gift or enjoy for yourself! There is limited space to get one-on-one guidance from Diane. Sign up early at the Odell Weeks Activities Center.

Coffee with a Cop

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center • (803) 643-2181

DATES: Every three months, exact dates vary.

AGES: All **COST:** Free

Part of a national effort to improve trust and build relationships—one cup of coffee at a time. Coffee with a cop brings police officers and the community members they serve together over coffee to discuss issues and learn more about each other.

Cultural Appreciation Club

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center • (803) 643-2181

DATE: Every three months, exact dates vary.

AGES: All **COST:** Free

The Cultural Appreciation Club seeks to help break down cultural barriers, build bridges, and learn how to love and appreciate all individuals and cultures.

Intermediate Guitar

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Call for current/upcoming session dates

AGES: 18 & up **COST:** \$50 per course

Intermediate Players: Continue to develop your playing, chord progression, and musical knowledge. Learn new songs and playing techniques from others. We'll have fun while learning!

Beginner Guitar

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Thursdays, 1:00 – 3:00 pm, Call for current/upcoming session dates

AGES: 18 & up **COST:** \$50 per course

Beginners: Learn the basics of playing guitar during an 8-week course that will focus on playing chords and songs while having a good time.

Dogwood Stable Racehorses Coloring Book

At Various Locations* • (803) 642-7631

COST: \$10

The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum and local artist Stephanie M. Dunatov have published a coloring book featuring Dogwood Stable racehorses. The coloring book features some of Dogwood's most iconic racehorses, such as Palace Malice, Summer Squall, Aikenite, Storm Song, and many more. *The coloring book may be picked up at the following locations for a \$10 donation to the Hall of Fame: Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame, Odell Weeks Activities Center, Folly in Downtown Aiken, Pitter Patter Children's Boutique, and the City of Aiken Visitor Centers & Train Museum. One hundred percent of the donation will go to maintain current exhibits and develop future displays.*

Let's Chat

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center • (803) 643-2181

DATES: Select Fridays 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Call for exact dates.

AGES: All **COST:** Free

An entertaining and informational mid-day event, this potluck style event encourages participants to bring their own lunch to enjoy while engaging in an informational topic seminar or enjoying entertainment from local area bands and artists.

Little Free Library

Hopelands Gardens • (803) 642-7650

DATES: 10:00 a.m. – Sunset

AGES: 14 & under **COST:** Free

Hopelands Gardens is home to a Little Free Library (LFL), a kiosk full of books where readers are encouraged to "take a book, return a book." The LFL is located just behind the Doll House in Hopelands Gardens. Books are always free and can be enjoyed while you visit Hopelands, or you can take them home. You are welcome to bring children's books to contribute to the library. This LFL is maintained by the Aiken Council of the International Reading Association.

4L's (Living, Loving, and Lifelong Learning)

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center

AGES: 50 and up **COST:** \$5 per session or \$25 for all sessions. Registration is Required. Call (803) 643-2181. Session Schedule 2023: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

• Brain Train "Keep Your Brain on Track"

DATE: February 6

• Nutrition "Eating well & healthy cooking alternatives"

DATE: March 5

• Body Health "How to Care for Your Body"

DATE: April 2

We invite you to come to Live, Love, and Learn with us! Lunch will be provided, and door prizes are available.

Story Time

Rye Patch • (803) 642-7650

DATES: Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m., March, April & May

AGES: 8 & under **COST:** Free

Instill a love of reading in your child that will last a lifetime. The lawn of Rye Patch offers the perfect atmosphere for an afternoon story, fun with friends and receive a free book.

Traditional Shotokan Karate

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 6 & 7 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.

AGES: 7 & up **COST:** \$40 per month

Shotokan Karate (non-contact style) teaches practical self-defense. It will enhance your concentration, self-discipline, confidence, and emotional control while promoting health, fitness, balance, and agility.

READ WITH US!

Join us for Story Time Tuesdays in March, April and May



City of Aiken Spring Day Camp

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Rooms 3 & Gym 1 • (803) 642-7631

DATES: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (early drop off at 7:30 a.m., pick up 5:00 – 5:30 p.m.) April 1 – 5

AGES: 5k – 5th Grade

COST: \$100 per weekly session; \$50 deposit to hold your child's spot in each week

Action awaits you at camp this spring! Spring Camp sessions at the Odell Weeks Activities Center are exciting, engaging, and educational. Kids will enjoy outdoor activities, indoor games, sports, and crafts. Registration opens on February 5, and spots are limited!

Senior Fit & Fun

Fit & Strong!

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays,
9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

AGES: 50 & up **COST:** Free

Combining physical activity and health education, this class helps to manage arthritis, learn to exercise safely, decrease joint pain and stiffness, improve daily function, reduce anxiety and depression and develop and maintain an active lifestyle. Registration is required, but space is limited.

Fit 4 Ever

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 6 & 7
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays,
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

AGES: 16 & up **COST:** \$30 for 10 classes. Free for SilverSneakers® members.

This low-impact, moderate-paced fitness class is great for a total body workout! Enjoy aerobics, resistance exercises with light weights, and floor exercises, all set to fun, upbeat music.

Let's Dance

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Thursdays, 11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

AGES: All **COST:** Free

Join fellow dance enthusiasts to learn & practice basic line dance steps. This will be a fun and practical way to keep active, plus show off your awesome dance moves!

Line Dance

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 6 & 7
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

AGES: 16 & up **COST:** \$41 for 10 visits or \$7 daily.

Learn a variety of line dances with Brenda Taylor. In this fun exercise class, you will have fun as she incorporates cardiovascular, strength, and endurance training to help you reduce stress and improve your overall health.

SilverSneakers® Classic

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 6 & 7
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays,
11:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon

AGES: 50 & up **COST:** \$30 for 10 classes.
Free for eligible SilverSneakers® members.

Improve strength, flexibility, posture, and balance. Exercise at your own pace with resistance tools, including bands, balls, and weights.

SilverSneakers® Yoga

Odell Weeks Activities Center, Room 6 & 7
(803) 642-7631

DATES: Mondays and Wednesdays,
11:15 – 12:00 noon

AGES: 16 & up

COST: \$30 for 10 classes. Free for eligible SilverSneakers® members.

Improve the range of movement, strength, and balance... and relax! Learn safe movement and breathing exercises to reduce stress and improve mental clarity.

Tai Chi for Arthritis

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays,
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

AGES: 50 & up **COST:** Free

One of the most effective exercises for the health of the mind and body. Featuring flowing movements, tai chi can be a meditation and an integral exercise for all parts of the body and the mind. Registration is required; space is limited.

Walk with Ease

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays,
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

AGES: 50 & up **COST:** Free

Walk with Ease reduces pain, increases balance and strength and improves your overall health. The program will help motivate you to get in great shape and allow you to walk safely and comfortably.

Zumba Gold

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
(803) 643-2181

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

AGES: 50 & up **COST:** \$35 for 10 classes or \$7 daily
Zumba Gold recreates the original Zumba moves at a lower intensity. Easy-to-follow choreography focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination. Come ready to sweat and leave feeling empowered and strong!

You may be eligible to participate FREE through your Medicare health plan. SilverSneakers® members receive FREE enrollment into SilverSneakers® Classes, Zumba Gold, Yoga, and Chair Yoga. You must register at the Odell Weeks Activities Center or Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center to receive your SilverSneakers® swipe card.

Don't have SilverSneakers? We also have partnerships with Renew Active by United Healthcare and One Pass. You may be eligible to receive FREE enrollment into the Odell Weeks Activities Center Fitness Room and Pickleball. Ask the front desk for more details.



SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Senior Softball

Registration: The registration fee per person is \$50 annually and covers the entire calendar year. Registration is available year-round at the Odell Weeks Activities Center at 1700 Whiskey Road. If you are interested in this program, please call us at (803) 642-7631.

DATES: The league meets on Wednesdays at Citizens Park from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The Senior Softball Program is designed to provide active, older adults ages 40 and up in the Aiken area an opportunity to participate in a recreational softball league.

Aiken Legends Adult Basketball

Odell Weeks Activities Center
• (803) 642-7631

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays,
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

AGES: 40 & up

COST: \$2 daily; wellness membership available

Come join the Aiken Legends Adult Basketball. This group of active, older participants enjoys playing ball and reminiscing about the good old days!

SENIOR CLUBS

Get away from home and join the senior fun! Play games, attend parties, special events, health seminars, and community outings.

Golden Good Timers Senior Club

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
• (803) 643-2181

DATES: Fridays, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AGES: 50 & up

COST: Membership dues apply

Smith-Hazel Seniors Club

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center
• (803) 643-2181

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays,
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

AGES: 50 & up

COST: Membership dues apply

Leisure Activities

The City of Aiken PRT Department has many opportunities for leisure activities including walking, jogging, hiking and biking.

Find our trails here: www.sctrails.net

Trail Loops	Mile Equivalency
Carolina Bay	2 laps = 1 mile
Citizens Park Complex	1 1/4 laps = 1 mile
Crosland Park	5 laps = 1 mile
Eustis Park	2 laps = 1 mile
Kalmia Hill Park	5 laps = 1 mile
Osbon Park	4 laps = 1 mile
Smith-Hazel Park	3 laps = 1 mile
Virginia Acres Park <i>*no biking*</i>	1 lap = 1 mile

Cross Country Paths	Mile Equivalent
Citizens Park Complex	2.9 miles with multiple routes
Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park	3.1 miles with multiple routes

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Courtesy is Contagious!



Stop at all road crossings.



This is a trail, not a speedway.
Keep slow when biking around others



The trail is not a silent disco.
Please keep one ear open.



Stay to the right side of the trail.
Practice Southern hospitality by
saying "on your left" or using
your bell when passing.



No littering.



There is no poop fairy.
Clean up after your dog.



We want your pups to safely enjoy their
walk, so keep them on a short leash.

PARKS, SHELTERS, GYMS + ROOM RENTALS

Reservations based on availability.

Amentum Center for the Performing Arts: (803) 648-1438

This facility is a great venue for your next meeting, conference, performance, or seminar. Reservations are based on availability.

Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park: (803) 642-7631

Located at 700 Mack Henry Holland Drive, Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park offers shelter rentals along with trails, amphitheater, and open green space. Amenities include playground, six picnic tables, and lighted parking lot.

Carolina Bay: (803) 642-7631

Come and walk our trails, watch wildlife, or just enjoy the pleasure of the woods and water that are only a few yards from Whiskey Road. This is a city facility with a difference: a natural wetland with minimal improvements and maximum tranquility. A bay is a habitat that forms from a natural depression that collects water and nurtures flora and fauna not typically indigenous to the immediately surrounding area. The Observation Deck is available for rentals booked 30 days in advance.

Citizens Park Complex: (803) 642-7631

This facility offers 15 baseball/softball fields and plenty of open green space. Reservations are based on availability.

Hopelands Gardens, Rye Patch: (803) 642-7650

Are you planning an event? Hopelands Gardens and Rye Patch are beautiful venues for weddings, receptions, rehearsal dinners, parties, business retreats and more.

Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center: (803) 643-2181

Looking for the perfect place to have your wedding, reception, reunion, conference, party, or seminar? The Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center is a great venue for your next event. Rental reservations are available Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays. Located adjacent to Eustis Park, just a short drive from downtown Aiken. *Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Newberry Street Festival Center: (803) 642-7636

Looking for an open space to host your next event? Look no further than the outdoor Newberry Street Festival Center! This centrally located venue is perfect for downtown events and gatherings. The Newberry Street Festival Center is available to rent, with bookings accepted up to 90 days in advance.

Smith-Hazel Recreation Center & Odell Weeks Activities Center

Odell Weeks Activities Center: (803) 642-7631

Smith-Hazel Recreation Center: (803) 642-7634

Find the perfect space and price for your activity, conference, rehearsal, meeting, shower, or family reunion!

Staff Spotlight



We are dedicated to providing quality parks, programs and facilities for you to enjoy! Our department is comprised of an extraordinary group of talented and hard-working individuals. As you experience our services, we hope that you have an opportunity to meet a few members of our team. Here are the newest additions to our staff. **See you on the Park Bench!**

Jessica Campbell, MSML, CPRP • Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director



Katie Gantt
Marketing
Coordinator,
2 months



Haley Locklair
PRT Secretary,
3 months



George Long
Maintenance
Worker,
4 months



Lisa Quattlebaum
Facilities
Assistant,
3 months



Gregory Stevens
Maintenance
Worker,
4 months



Carol Stewart
Tourism
Coordinator,
4 months



Barry Dean
Maintenance
Worker,
2 months



Left: Virginia Acres Park • Middle: Eustis Park • Far Right: Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park

PLAYGROUNDS

Parks are open from sunrise to sunset unless otherwise posted.

Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park

Extreme Generation playground equipment, ages 5 - 12

Mulch surface

Charleston Street Playground

Playground system with swings and sandbox, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Citizens Park Complex 1 & 2

Playground system, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Citizens Park Sprayground

Water features (seasonal), Swings, ages 2 - 12

Concrete surface; Mulch surface

Crosland Park

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Artificial Turf surface

Eustis Park

ADA Handicapped Accessible playground system with swings & multiple play amenities, ages 2 - 12

Artificial Turf surface

Governor Aiken Neighborhood Park

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Gyles Park

Swings, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Hammond/Williams Park

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Kalmia Hill Park

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Artificial Turf surface

Kennedy Kolony Park

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Library Park

All-Accessible playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Artificial Turf surface

Osbon Park

Playground system, ages 2 - 12

Mulch surface

Smith-Hazel Park (closed for renovations)

Playground system with swings, ages 2 - 12

Sand surface

Virginia Acres Park

ADA Handicapped Accessible playground system with swings & multiple play amenities, ages 2 - 12

Poured-in-place rubber surface

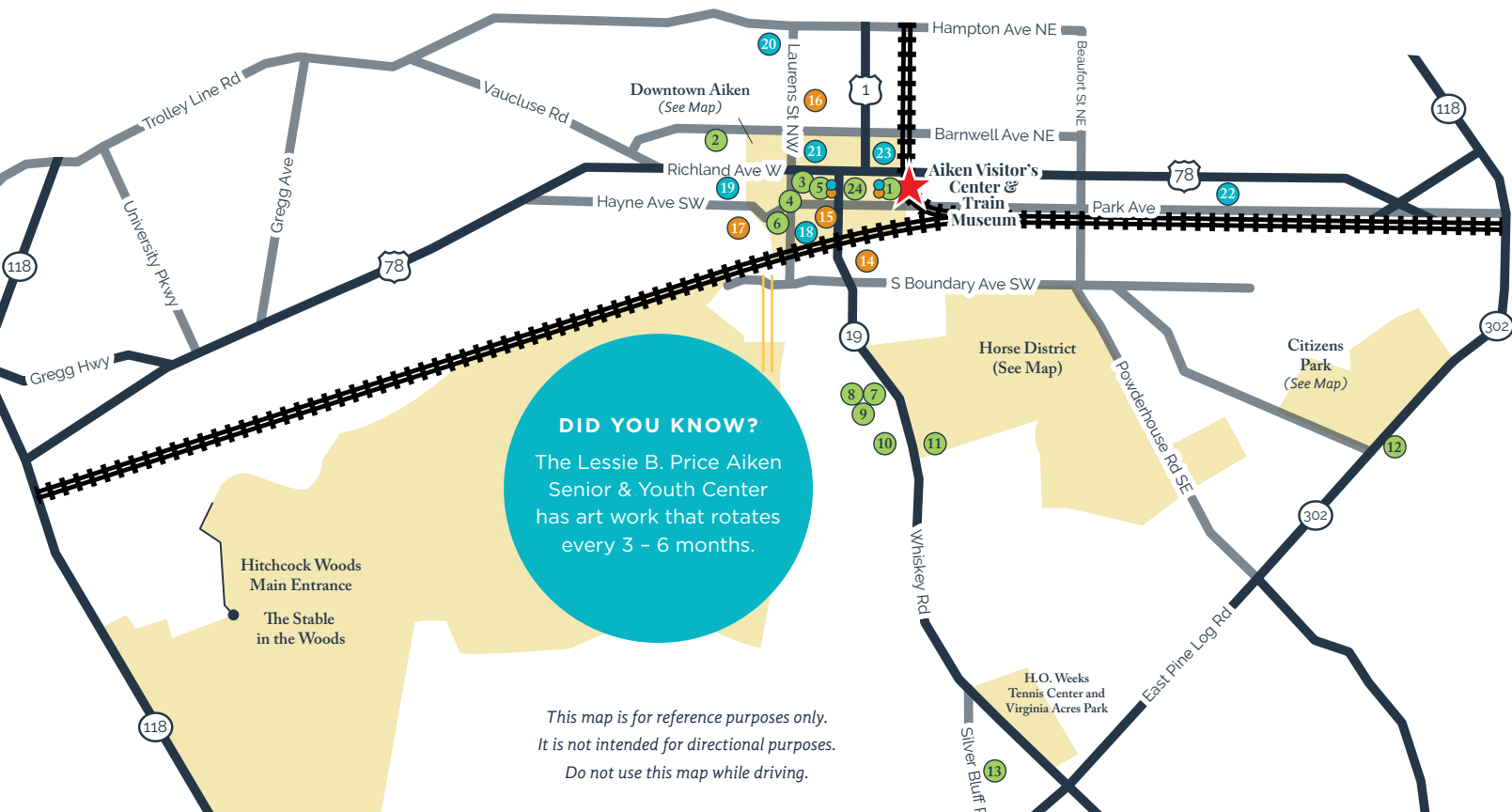
PUBLIC ART

Using the map below, visitors and residents alike are invited to experience Aiken's arts scene. There are a variety of murals throughout downtown Aiken. Kitting Around Aiken, a new public arts installation and tribute to young foxes, fascinates all ages. Horseplay is a display of horse sculptures throughout Aiken, has become an iconic feature of the city.

- 1 ● Horse of a Different Color
- Aiken Visitors Center & Train Museum - 1916 Steam Engine
- Freight
- 2 ● Semper Viridis
- 3 ● Splendor in Glass

- 4 ● The Patriot
- 5 ● Dustin Hoofman
- Amentum Center for the Performing Arts - Nuclear Waste Cleanup
- The Alley - The Alley Murals
- Newberry Street - I Love You
- The Small Alley - Murals
- Fender
- 6 ● Steed Freedom
- 7 ● Hav Sum Fun
- 8 ● Stonerside
- 9 ● Magnolia Mare
- 10 ● Historic Horses of Aiken at Rye Patch Stable
- 11 ● History Maker
- 12 ● Aiken Saddlery Horse
- 13 ● His Spirit

- 14 ● Fable
- 15 ● Flora
- 16 ● Flo
- 17 ● Franklin
- 18 ● Savannah River Site History Museum - Atoms in Space
- 19 ● Richland Avenue & Pendleton Street - In God We Trust
- 20 ● Carriage House Inn - Aiken Sporting Life
- 21 ● Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce - Interconnected
- 22 ● Aiken County Farmers Market - Farming Through the Seasons of Time
- 23 ● Center for African American History, Art, and Culture - Volumes of Culture
- 24 ● Leadership Aiken Horse



HORSEPLAY



KITTING AROUND AIKEN



ART





TOURISM + MORE

Visitors and residents alike are invited to experience Aiken with tours and more. Below are a few great options. For a comprehensive list of things to do in Aiken, visit our website at VisitAikenSC.com.

CHECK OUT THE
NEW WEBSITE

Aiken County Farmers Market

115 Williamsburg Street SE • (803) 507-8372

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Saturdays: 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Certified SC-grown produce, crafts, baked goods, vendor opportunities.

Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum

135 Dupree Place (off Whiskey Road and located in Hopelands Gardens)

(803) 642-7631, (803) 643-2121 • halloffame@cityofaikensc.gov

www.aikenracinghalloffame.com

Tuesday – Friday: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

COST: Free admission; donations welcome

The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum celebrates the great tradition of racing and Aiken's vital role in it. Forty champion Thoroughbreds have trained at the famed Aiken Training Track and each have been immortalized in the Hall of Fame.

Aiken Visitors Center and Train Museum

406 Park Avenue SE • (803) 293-7846

Wednesday – Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

COST: Free admission

Model Train, 9 dioramas that depict towns along the original South Carolina Canal and Railroad Company right of way, gift shop, trolley tours.

Amentum Center for the Performing Arts

126 Newberry Street SW • (803) 648-1438

Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (box office)

Home of the Aiken Community Theatre and venue to many other performing arts groups including Aiken Performing Arts, Joye in Aiken, and Aiken Symphony Orchestra. Call the box office for information on upcoming shows.

Arboretum Trail

Colleton Avenue and Hopelands Gardens • (803) 293-7846

10:00 a.m. – Sunset

COST: Free admission

Did you know Aiken is home to the most diverse collection of trees found in any municipal landscape? Begin your exploration of this gem by discovering our trails on Colleton Avenue and Hopelands Gardens with a mobile tour! The Colleton trail begins at the library and as you walk you can call in to the mobile number (803) 295-5008 or scan the QR code for information on the various trees along the trail. Continue the tour in Hopelands by starting at the main entrance on Dupree Place.

Center for African American History, Art & Culture

120 York St. NE • (803) 502-4858 • Call for open hours

The Immanuel Institute building is home to CAAHAC. Exhibits and interactive programs of sight and sound that educate, inspire and demonstrate the many contributions of African Americans to Aiken County.

City of Aiken Municipal Building

111 Chesterfield St. S • (803) 642-7654

City headquarters and the Tourism Division staff offices.



Clifford S. Gerde Carriage Museum

Rye Patch, 100 Berrie Road •

(803) 642-7650

Sundays: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.,

March – November

COST: Free admission

Discover carriages once used for trips to the market, outings around town, commutes to and from work, leisurely travel, and even pony breaking. Visitors and locals alike are invited to learn more about travel in the era before horsepower came from an engine.

Doll House

Hopelands Gardens, 135 Dupree Place • (803) 642-7650

Sundays: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., March – November

COST: Free admission

Once used as a school house and play area for the Iselin children, the Doll House showcases doll collections from many different generations. The Doll House is overseen by the Aiken Garden Club Council.

Historic Horses of Aiken at Rye Patch Stables

Rye Patch, 100 Berrie Road • (803) 642-7650

Daily: 10:00 a.m. – Sunset (during regular operating hours)

COST: Free admission

This exhibit allows visitors to explore Aiken's rich equestrian history from the early 1900s to present. Following in the Rogers' gracious tradition of welcoming guests and sharing their property, the City of Aiken and the Friends of Hopelands and Rye Patch reopened the stables to host The Historic Horses of Aiken. There are eight horses, one mule, and one pony in the stables, all painted to replicate those belonging to prominent Aiken Residents.

Historic Trolley Tours

406 Park Avenue SE • (803) 293-7846 • Saturdays: 10:00 a.m.

COST: \$15 per person

How well do you know Aiken? Hop on the two-hour Aiken Trolley Tour and be wowed with stories from Aiken's golden age when people like Fred Astaire danced down the steps of the Aiken post office and the Hope Diamond was worn around the collar of socialite, Evalyn Walsh McLean's dog . . . don't miss your chance to learn more. Tickets for the trolley tour are now available at aikentrolleytour.com.

Hopelands Gardens & Rye Patch

135 Dupree Place • (803) 642-7650 • Daily: 10:00 a.m. – Sunset

COST: Free admission

Two separate, but adjoining estates spanning over 24 acres, donated to the City of Aiken by the Iselin and Rogers Families. A public garden for visitors to enjoy. Hopelands Gardens includes Live Oaks and Deodar Cedars, the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame, Horses from Horseplay, Camellia garden, fountains, The Doll House, The Aiken Community Labyrinth, The Joan B. Tower Gazebo, The Roland H. Windham Performing Arts Stage, lakes, wetlands, and winding brick pathways. Rye Patch includes stables, the guest cottage, the Rogers' family home (not open to the public), the rose garden, and the Clifford S. Gerde Carriage Museum.



Find a Facility

1 Amentum Center for the Performing Arts

126 Newberry St., SW • (803) 648-1438

Theatre, small conference facilities and reception area

2 Aiken County Farmers Market

115 Williamsburg St. SE • (803) 507-8372

Certified SC grown produce, crafts, baked goods, vendor opportunities

3 Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum

135 Dupree Pl. • (803) 642-7631

Exhibits, photos, trophies and other memorabilia that highlight Aiken's 40 national champion racehorses, research room, Dogwood Stable room & exhibit, Aiken Training Track exhibit, kids fun rooms, horse training exhibit

4 Aiken Visitors Center and Train Museum

406 Park Ave., SE • (803) 293-7846

Visitor information & literature; Historic trolley tours (Saturdays); Model train and dioramas; Toy trains; Live music (Saturdays); Gift shop; Special use facility

5 Beverly D. Clyburn Generations Park

700 Mack Henry Holland Dr. • (803) 642-7631

Playground, picnic shelter, cross country trail, outdoor volleyball court, restrooms, fitness court and walking paths

6 Carolina Bay, Observation Deck & Climbing Wall

Price Ave. • (803) 642-7631

Natural walking trail

7 Center for African American History, Art & Culture

120 York St. NE • (803) 502-4858

The Immanuel Institute building is home to CAAHAC. Exhibits and interactive programs of sight and sound that educate, inspire and demonstrate the many contributions of African Americans to Aiken County.

8 Charleston Street Playground

292 Charleston St. SE • (803) 642-7631

Playground, picnic shelter and basketball court

9 Citizens Park Complex

651 Old Airport Rd. • (803) 642-7631

Multi-purpose athletic fields, batting cages, walking track, sprayground and playground

10 City of Aiken Municipal Building

111 Chesterfield St. S • (803) 642-7654

City headquarters and the Tourism Division staff offices.

11 Crosland Park

1676 Aldrich St., NE • (803) 642-7634

Playground, picnic shelter, basketball court and walking track

12 Eustis Park

1001 Edgefield Ave. • (803) 643-2181

Playground, walking track, basketball courts, tennis, pickleball and picnic shelter

13 Governor Aiken Neighborhood Park

228 Stewart Dr. • (803) 642-7631

Playground, basketball court, picnic tables

14 Gyles Park

412 Park Ave. • (803) 293-7846

Swings, picnic tables

15 Hammond / Williams Park

634 Orangeburg St., NE • (803) 642-7631

Playground

16 Hopelands Gardens

135 Dupree Pl. • (803) 642-7650

Public gardens

17 Kalmia Hill Park

3311 Summit Dr. • (803) 642-7631

Walking track, playground, basketball court, picnic shelter and tennis courts

18 Kennedy Kolony Park

1402 Redd St. • (803) 642-7631

Playground and basketball court

19 Lessie B. Price Aiken Senior & Youth Center

841 Edgefield Ave. NW • (803) 643-2181

Banquet hall with small stage, microphone, projector and A/V connections, a catering kitchen, computer lab, walking track, tennis, pickleball, basketball courts, picnic shelters and outdoor patio with rocking chairs

20 Library Park

355 York St. • (803) 642-7631

All accessible playground

21 Osbon Park

346 Columbia Ave. • (803) 642-7631

Walking track, playground and picnic shelter

22 Parks, Recreation and Tourism

1072 Banks Mill Road • (803) 643-4779

Administrative Offices

23 Perry Memorial Park

720 Abbeville Ave. • (803) 642-7634

Picnic shelter, green space and restrooms

24 Rye Patch Reception Center

100 Berrie Rd. • (803) 642-7650

Special Use Facility

25 Smith-Hazel Recreation Center & Park

400 Berrie Rd. • (803) 642-7634

Playground, outside basketball court, meeting room for gym, lighted tennis courts, walking track, swimming pool and picnic shelter

26 Virginia Acres Park

1700 Whiskey Rd. • (803) 642-7631

Playground, outside basketball courts, two picnic shelters, and one-mile walking track, tennis, pickleball, disc golf, soccer field, outdoor volleyball court and outdoor fitness equipment

27 Odell Weeks Activities Center

1700 Whiskey Rd. • (803) 642-7631

Gymnasium with stage, Gymnasium with retractable bleachers, aerobics room, locker rooms with showers, racquetball and room rentals

28 Weeks Tennis Center

1745 Two Notch Road • (803) 642-7739

Hard courts, clay courts, pro shop, locker rooms, lobby and porch

