



KC TRAILS

RUN · WALK · BIKE · PADDLE

Kershaw County

STATE OF THE TRAILS 2023

PRESENTED BY KC TRAILS

A FOCUS ON COMMUNITY HEALTH

KC Trails was founded in 2019 in support of a number of actions on the part of Kershaw County Council's effort to implement Kershaw Vision 2030 and make Kershaw County a great place to live, work, play, worship, and raise a family. Transform the Way Kershaw County Citizens Think and Act to Improve Healthy Outcomes.

Part of the Community Health Improvement plan (CHIP), KC Trails was formed to help implement a number of goals developed by the LiveWell Kershaw Coalition. KC Trails' mission is tied directly to the objectives in this document, in particular the objectives to 1.) Provide an environment that promotes a healthy life and 2.) Provide opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy recreation.



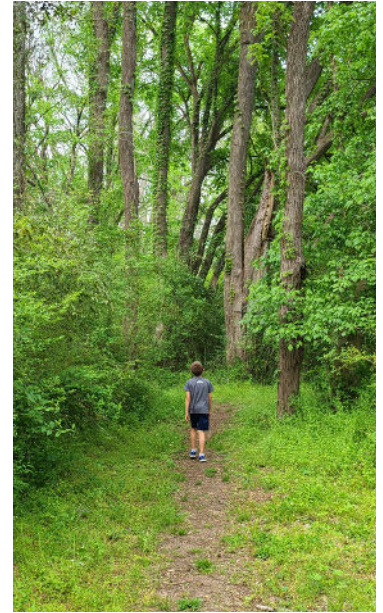
AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES A HEALTHY LIFE

- Provide an environment that promotes a healthy life
- #1 Continue to implement objectives of the trails plan, with a goal of having 15 miles of paved walking trails completed
- #2 Empower individuals to improve their own health through responsible choices
- Develop a plan to place outdoor recreation facilities — including walking tracks, basketball courts, and skateboard parks — throughout the county
- Promote and support LiveWell Kershaw Coalition (LWK) and the implementation of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION

EXPAND & PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION

- Use master planning process to identify and develop park and recreational spaces to ensure a variety of recreation options for residents
- Create long-term plan to create new recreation programs, services, and facilities across the county
- Engage with South Carolina State Parks to identify a strategic plan for expanding use at Goodale State Park
- Expand organized recreation opportunities to serve the needs of a broad range of age groups
- Identify and provide public access to a sufficiently-sized (10,000+ acres) site or combination of sites where members of the public can horseback ride, mountain bike, and hike



DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK OF RECREATIONAL TRAILS, GREENWAYS, & PATHS

- Identify additional access points and needs for facilities and improvements along the Wateree River in Kershaw County
- Further develop recreation opportunities on the rivers and lakes of the county
- Work with public and private sector entities to identify and develop day use access points at Lake Wateree, including facilities for camping, fishing, picnicking, boat access, and recreation
- Research and develop the abandoned Norfolk Southern rail corridor through the City of Camden as a greenway

GOODALE STATE PARK



FRIENDS OF GOODALE PARK ESTABLISHED

In 2021, Friends of Goodale Park was established to provide citizen input and support for Goodale State Park. Over many years, the park has suffered from a lack of attention and neglect. The new group has injected life into the park and in its first six months received a grant of \$175,000 from the SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.

October 4, 2022 was a great day for Goodale State Park, Lee State Park, Kershaw & Lee counties!

Below is the presentation of the \$250,000 check, \$175,000 to Goodale State Park and \$75,000 to Lee State Park.



TRAILS EXPANDED

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FIRST DAY HIKE - RECORD SETTING ATTENDANCE

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NATURE AS TEACHER

Over 800 acres of riverfront property– called Hardscramble – was donated to Clemson University in 2006 by the late Margaret Lloyd, a local environmental advocate. The preservation and wise-use of this longleaf-pine dominated forest represents one woman’s dream of fostering environmental education in the state of South Carolina.

Renamed to be the Nature as Teacher Preserve, the property is being developed to teach children and adults about nature and conservation. Nature as Teacher runs programs educate. In 2022, Nature as Teacher has begun opening up the property to the public, including weekly events and several “open days” where the public is invited to explore the property.





WATEREE RIVER VETERANS PARK

Since its creation in 2019 (?), Veteran's Park has become a gathering place for the community and has featured popular events such as the "Jack O' Lantern Jamboree" and Christmas holiday events. The "Touch a Truck" event in November brings out children of all ages to get up close and personal with some amazing and large vehicles. The park features a floating doc and a ramp for kayaks and canoes, and it has become a popular place for those wishing to paddle the Wateree River.



CAMDEN ENVIRONMENTAL PARK

- Established as the ending point for the “Yakking the River” event
- Introduced Chotty Trail

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YAKKIN’ THE RIVER EVENT

Yakkin’ the River continues to draw hundred of paddlers for a day on the river. In conjunction with Duke energy, the river level is controlled to maintain optimal depth and flow for the river. On July 16th, 2022, more than 500 (?) paddlers made the trip from the Lake Wateree Dam to Camden Environmental Park. A free shuttle allowed paddlers to drop their vehicles at their take-out location. Put in location: Lugoff Landing (1600 Tail Race Rd, Lugoff, SC) Take out location: Camden Riverfront Environmental Park (175 Bramblewood Plantation Rd, Camden, SC) Skill Level: Easy Rapids: Class I Length: 8.6 miles Duration: 3.5 hours ***Complimentary shuttle service will be available***



DEDICATION OF THE CHOTTY TRAIL

The Chotty Trail connector is a 3.5-mile spur running from the east bank of the Wateree River through historic Camden, S.C. Named for the late Charles “Chotty” Mullikin, a celebrated World War II veteran and father of Dr. Tom Mullikin, a renowned global expedition leader; the Chotty Trail spur will ultimately connect Camden with the primary spine of the 500-mile Palmetto Trail which currently passes within 21 miles of the west bank of the Wateree River.



BIKE SAFETY

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RIDE OF SILENCE

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OFF TRAIL BIKING

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ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

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KIDS TO PARK DAY / SCOTT PARK

Kids to Park Day is a national event, and Kershaw County and the City of Camden participated for the first time on May 14, 2022.

- Scott Park was home to a Bike Rodeo, encouraging kids on bikes to ride, compete, and have fun, and a bike mechanic was on hand to tune up the bicycles
- Goodale State Park had naturalist Austin Jenkins provide a guide nature tour
- Kirkwood Park had Nature as Teacher president a morning of fun and games, all about animal tracks!
- The Kershaw County Library Book mobile was at Powder Magazine park with activities as well as some free books
- Wateree River Veterans Park was host to a class tailored to children focused on freshwater fishing safety and etiquette.

KCL

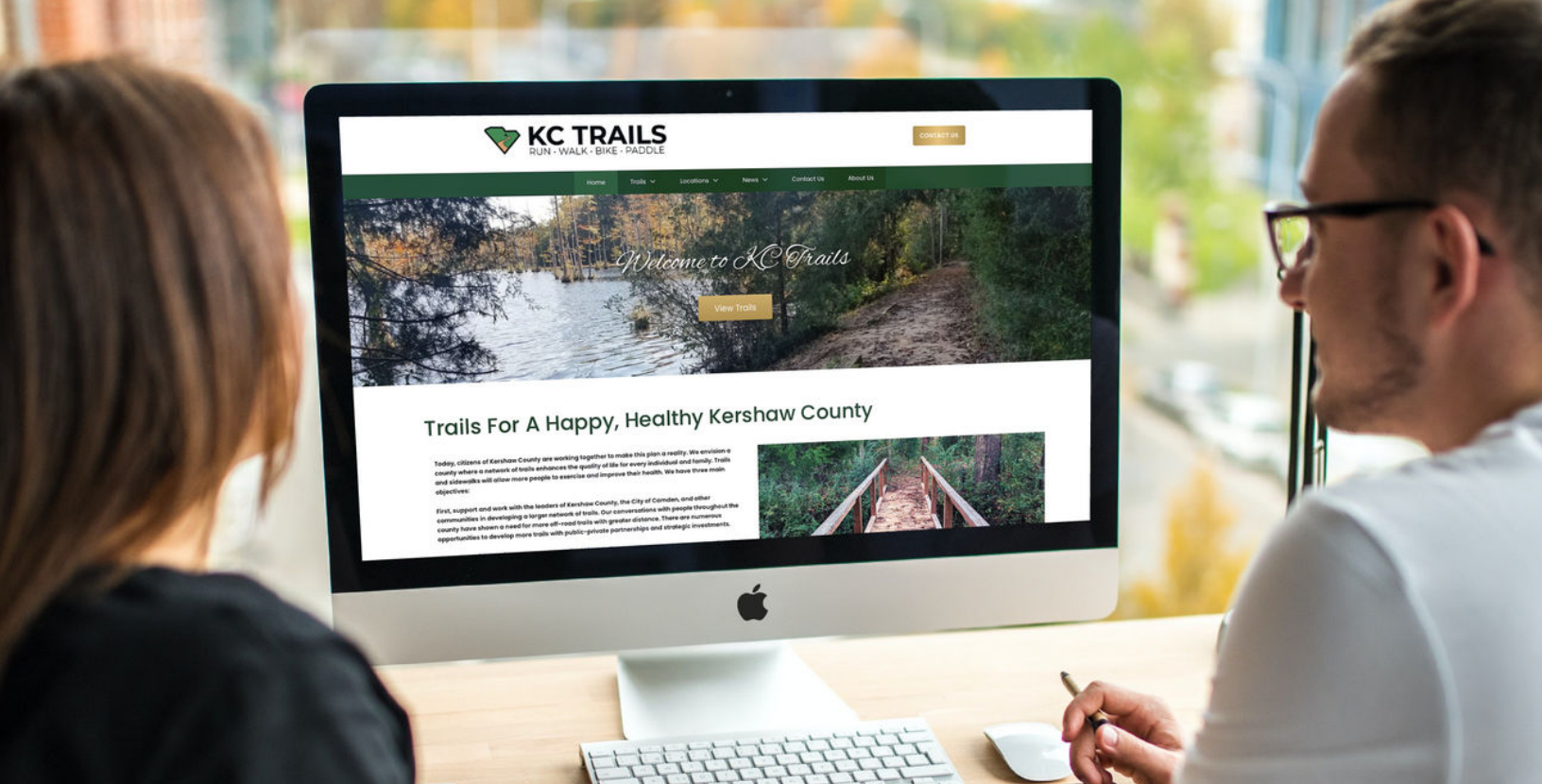
KERSHAW
COUNTY
LIBRARY

LiveWell
KERSHAW
COALITION



The City of
CAMDEN
SOUTH CAROLINA





GOALS FOR FUTURE INITIATIVES

KC Trails has managed to be supportive of trails in Kershaw County with very limited funding. The team is currently operating a website is running at www.KCTrails.org, which is meant to be a comprehensive list of public trails in Kershaw County, and a Facebook page with around 2000 followers.

- Issue #1
- Issues#2
- Issue #3
- Issue #4



