

Florence County Parks and Recreation Commission

Thurs, Feb. 19, 2026 Administrative Offices

AGENDA

Call to Order

Invocation

Consent Agenda

- Peanut Patch Tennis Ebenezer Park
- Approval of Minutes (Jan. 15, 2026)

Public Comments

- The Bridge Builder Foundation (TCC)

Information for Commission

- Staff Reports
- Francis Marion Recreation Boundary
- Action by Commission (Vote Required)

Old Business

- Action by Commission (Vote Required)

New Business

- The Bridge Builder Foundation (TCC)
- Action by Commission (Vote Required)

Executive Session

- Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, As Amended

Next meeting March 19, 2026

Adjournment

PARKS AND RECREATION
Minutes
Florence County Parks & Recreation
Administrative Offices
January 15, 2026

PRESENT: Scott Poston, Bob Gardner, David Rast, Jade Perkins, Kenny Lovette, Melissa Jarrell, Robert Sullivan, Will Thomy, Joe Eason, Andy Jones, Chante Clark & Isaac Smith

CALL TO ORDER: Scott Poston called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Robert Sullivan provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Melissa Jarrell motioned to approve the November 20, 2025 meeting minutes/consent agenda; Kenny Lovette seconded; motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Billie Thomy requested to be on the Agenda to receive permission to serve alcohol on May 22, 2026 at the Lake House. Discussions followed. Action will be taken under New Business.

STAFF REPORTS:

In addition to information previously reviewed by Commission, staff also shared:

Lights for Paws Recap

Greater Olanta Youth Organization & Francis Marion Recreation Update

Athletic League Audit Information

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following were elected:

Chairman – Bob Gardner nominated by Robert Sullivan, motion carried unanimously.

Vice- Chairman – David Rast nominated by Robert Sullivan, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Thomy Request

Robert Sullivan motioned to approve request; Kenny Lovette seconded; motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Robert Sullivan motioned to adjourn; David Rast seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Dear Committee,

The Peanut Patch Junior Open would like to request the 7 courts at Ebenezer Park the weekend of April 25 and 26. Our tournament has been in Florence for over 50 years and is the largest tournament in the Southern section of the USTA. Thank you for your consideration. Larry Rizzo

Hi Isaac -

Following up on our conversation, I am starting a non-profit called The Bridge Builder Foundation.

The foundation's purpose is to provide education and uplift to underserved communities guided by the following pillars:

- Civic Engagement & Leadership Development
- Foundational STEM & Digital Literacy
- Financial Management
- Health & Wellness

I reached out to you as I am interested in working with the Timmonsville Community Center to facilitate our efforts.

Our initial thoughts on this engagement are the following:

- Conduct two 30 - 60 minute training sessions during the week
 - o Tuesday and Thursday, after 6pm
- Conduct a single 60 minute information session with a professional in a particular field.
 - o Saturday morning, between 9a - 12p

We are interested in the rules of engagement for these sessions. Additionally, we are open to discussing a partnership if the Community Center is interested.

As a show of good faith, here is a link to our draft business plan. Please do not share this document at this time.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fFtY4_XOXtBwR777pbcenn-dM8H21k-sURO6PJFU9fc/edit?usp=sharing

If you require additional information or have trouble accessing the link, please let me know.

All the best,

Chris Fulwood

P: (862) 210-9663

W: (862) 902-2493

Right now we're in a discovery phase. We are identifying properties that may accommodate the request.

There is no cost for attendees. Our funding will come from personal contributions, donations, and grants.

Chris Fulwood

P: (862) 210-9663

W: (862) 902-2493



Florence County Parks & Recreation

Creating Community!

Department Notes

Penny Sales Projects:

- Timmonsville Park – Renovation & New Football Field Is Complete. Concession Stand Construction Has Started (95%).

Capital Projects:

- Disc Golf Course (95%)
- Ebenezer Bathroom Renovation (Completed)
- Youth Golf Equipment (Received)

Equipment:

- Mini Excavator (Received)
- Drag Machine (Received)
- Tractor Attachments (Received)

Other Projects:

- County Playgrounds (Completed)
- LRCP Splash Pad (Completed)
- LRCP Horse Trails/Campground (New Campground Completed, Trails Nearing Completion (95%), Horse Arena Completed, & Equestrian Campground Completed)
- Miracle League 2nd Field (Completed)
- Greenwood & Ebenezer Cts (Completed)
- Greenwood Walking Track & Parking Lots (Completed)
- Lions Park Tennis/Pickleball Cts (Completed)
- Independence Farm Master Plan (Completed)
- DeWitt's Bluff Landing Seawall (Completed)
- Lion's Park Multipurpose Building (Completed)
- Lynch River Athletic Complex Expansion (PO Established, Work To Begin Soon)
- Coward Concession Stand (Completed)
- LSC Wellness Room (County Commitment Completed)
- LC Skatepark (Didn't Receive Grants, Resubmitting)
- Timmonsville Vocational School (Approved for Grant)
- Pamlico Football Building (Construction Has Started, 95%)

Maintenance Division Notes (and winter weather has not been our friend)...

- Re-strawing/mulching plant beds and trees and various parks
- Installed curb stops at Spaulding Heights in new parking area
- Aligned fields at all parks to DYB specifications
- Repaired oyster tables in preparation for Miracle League Fundraiser; will deliver and pick up tables and trash on rescheduled date.
- Installed new flagpole lights (LSC and Greenwood)
- Serviced heaters in park restrooms

Independence Farm...

- Work continues on clearing/grubbing of canal that will connect trail systems on southern end of property
- Routine checks/cleaning for Bluff and Alexander Landings

Special Projects...

- Plumbing repair (Greenwood)
- Removed wire spool at Greenwood
- Regraded sinkhole area at Spaulding Heights
- Relocated and spread mulch at Lake City Park
- Replaced sign posts at Lake City Park
- Erecting pet waste removal signs at parks with walking trails



Leatherman Senior Center Monthly Report January 2026

Senior Center Total Visits: 1,780

Exercise Room Visits: 366

Senior Center Memberships: 920 (Lifetime-437, Annual-437) (Updated on 2/3/25) (Increased by 1 lifetime, decreased by 130 annual members)

Event Name	Total in Attendance
No Events	

Announcements

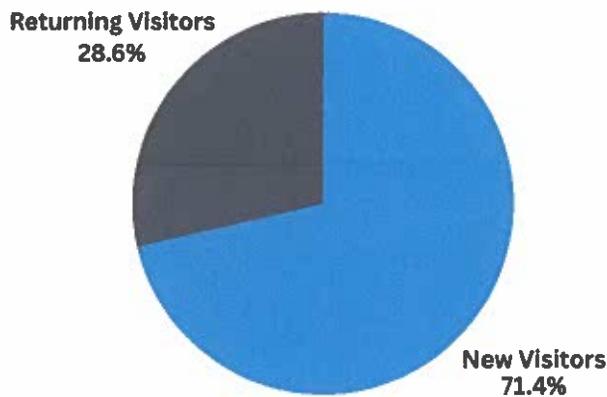
No Announcements

Travel

- Staff attended an Event Management School training

Website

- www.FlorenceCoTravel.com
- Website Traffic: 269



Class Monthly Attendance

Pee Dee Woodcarvers	9	Spades/Pinochle	43
Duplicate Bridge	64	Chairbics	132
Bingo	60	Lunch	407
Exercise Class	199	Tap Dance	17
Canasta	62	Thin & Healthy	Did not meet
Bridge	88	Sign Language	12
Pokeno	60	TOPS	98
Crochet	7	Spanish Class	75
Line Dancing	21	Bridge Lessons	5
Bible Study	73	Mexican Train	13
AARP	35	Tai Chi	20
Skip-Bo	36	Coloring	20
Computer Class	Did not meet	Yoga	20

Commission Notes

February 9, 2026

ATHLETICS

- Volunteer of the Year Awards for our leagues were handed out on January 24th, 2025 at our Volunteer of the Year Banquet at our Lake House Facility in Lake City.
 - Travis Gibson Overall FCP&R Volunteer of the Year
 - Megan Cox TYRL
 - Kathy Ward Miracle League of Florence Co.
 - Heather Simmons Coward
 - Kiawana Godfrey Olanta
 - August Langley Florence Disc Golf Association
 - Breeanne Hillyerd Hannah Pamplico
 - Jamie Floyd Scranton
 - Adam Miller Johnsonville
 - Shawn Thompson Delmae
 - Bian Calcutt Greenwood
 - Brad Duke Lynches River Athletic Park
- Basketball regular season will run through February 21st for Timmonsville and Pamplico. Regular season Johnsonville will run through February 28th. SCAP All-stars will begin on February 28th for Timmonsville 8U Boys, Timmonsville 10U Boys, Timmonsville 12U Boys, Timmonsville 14U Boys, Timmonsville 12U Girls, Hannah Pamplico 10U Boys, and Hannah Pamplico 12U Boys.
- Registration for baseball and softball will run through February 28th.
- Registration for The Miracle League of Florence County will run through February 27th.
- Johnsonville Track Club will begin registration on March 1st and will run through April 1st. SCAP board is meeting on February 18th and we will discuss adding Track & Field as a sport under the SCAP banner.
- The 10th Annual Oyster Roast benefiting The Miracle League of Florence County was cancelled on Saturday, January 31st due to inclement weather. It has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 28th from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the ECA Fairgrounds. There will be a cash bar, silent auction, all you can eat oysters, chicken bog, and food trucks. There will be a live performance from THE JEBB MAC BAND. The cost is \$55/ticket or \$100/couple. Tickets can be purchased at the Florence County Parks & Recreation Office, or online at <http://bit.ly/mloyster> or by emailing miracleleagueofflocty@gmail.com

Ebenezer Tennis Courts

January Report

Clinics	10	\$10.00	\$100.00
3 in Me Clinics	6	\$20.00	\$120.00
½ Lessons	31	\$25.00	\$775.00
Full Lessons	12	\$40.00	<u>\$480.00</u>
Total			\$1,475.00





Florence County Parks & Recreation

Creating Community!

Timmonsville Community Center-February Commission Notes

I. January Events/Senior Adult Program Activities

- Bible Class (total attendance) – 28
- Exercise Class/Fitness Room (total attendance)-20
- Bingo: 4
- Upcoming: DYB Umpire Certification- February 18th
- Rentals/Reservations: 1 (\$150)
- Total Visits: 141 (estimate)

Three-Month Chart Overview

December Senior Adult Activities/Events (closed 1 st -3 rd & 22 nd -31 st)	
Activity	Attendance
Bible Class	8
Exercise Class	8
Bingo	6
Crochet	1
Rental/Reservations	4 (month)
Total Visits	135 (estimate)

November Senior Adult Activities/Events	
Activity	Attendance
Bible Class	22
Exercise Class	13
Bingo	4
Crochet	1
Glorious Apostolic Church Thanksgiving Turkey Drive	110
Health Fair-Revive Medical Center	65
Rental/Reservations	5 (month)
Total Visits	325(estimate)

Lynches River County Park

February 2025 Report

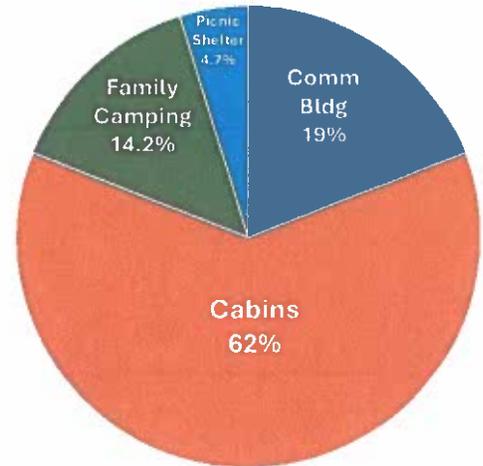
January 2026

Park Attendance:

- 3,966 people entered the park (1,322 vehicles)*
 - High vehicle count = 146 (Sat, 1/10 sunny, 79°)
 - Low vehicle count = 6 (Sat, 1/24 freezing rain, 40°)
 - Ave: ~44 vehicles per day
 - (Jan 2025: 3,012; 1,004 vehicles; ave: ~32 cars/day)

*Closed 1/31 for inclement weather

- YTD: 3,966 visitors
- Cumulative (2004-): 2,057,644



Accommodation Reservations

Cabins

2026 Nights Occupied	Revenue	2025 Nights Occupied	Revenue
13	\$870	11	\$710

Family Campground*

2026 Nights Occupied	Revenue	2025 Nights Occupied	Revenue
3 (4 sites)	\$300	15	\$850

Equestrian Campground*

2026 Nights Occupied	Revenue	2025 Nights Occupied	Revenue
0	\$0	0 (0 sites)	\$0

*closed January 1, 2025 for construction

Additional Rentals

Community Building

2026	Revenue	2025	Revenue
4	\$2,050	5	\$2,380

River Arbor

2026	Revenue	2025	Revenue
0	\$0	1	\$20

Climbing Wall	#	Revenue
Private party	0	\$0
Daily passes	1	\$12
Monthly passes	0	0
Annual passes	0	0
TOTAL		\$0

Picnic Shelters

2026	Revenue	2025	Revenue
1	\$40	0	\$0

Kids in Parks TRACK Trail

Date	# in Group	Miles	First Timers?	Time on trails	Most interesting/Liked best?
1/13	2	1	Y	30-60 mins	It was really cool. It had a wooden walkway through the water.

Environmental Discovery Center

- 612 total attendance (~15.4% of park attendance)
(EDC Attendance Jan 2025: 401)
- YTD Attendance: 612 visitors
- Since opening in 2/2008: 301,047 visitors
- 1 volunteers/FMU Interns: 10 hours

Events/Field Trips/Programs:

- 1 group/29 participants (~4.7% of EDC attendance)
 - 1/13/26 –EDC Homeschool Program (Snowflake Science)

Upcoming Events/Field Trips/Programs:

- 2/4: Summer camp registration starts (Week One full w/in 45 mins of opening)
 - 2/5: Adventure Homeschooling
 - 2/10: Spring Archery Clinic registration opens
 - 2/19: Marion Intermediate School
 - 2/24: Calvary Baptist Kindergarten
 - 2/25: Calvary Baptist Kindergarten
-

Park Projects

RV Site in Family Campground

- On hold until FY27

Equestrian

- Working on closing in muck pit; site signs installed.

Utility Building

- Waiting for warmer weather to pour concrete.

Disc Golf:

- Working on adding security light at entrance.

Other:

- Upcoming staff trainings:
 - 8/12/2025 – 5/13/2026: Florence County Leadership class (Florence)
 - 3/9-10/2026: Certified Pool Operator (Columbia)



Lynches River County Park **2025 In a Nutshell**



Summary

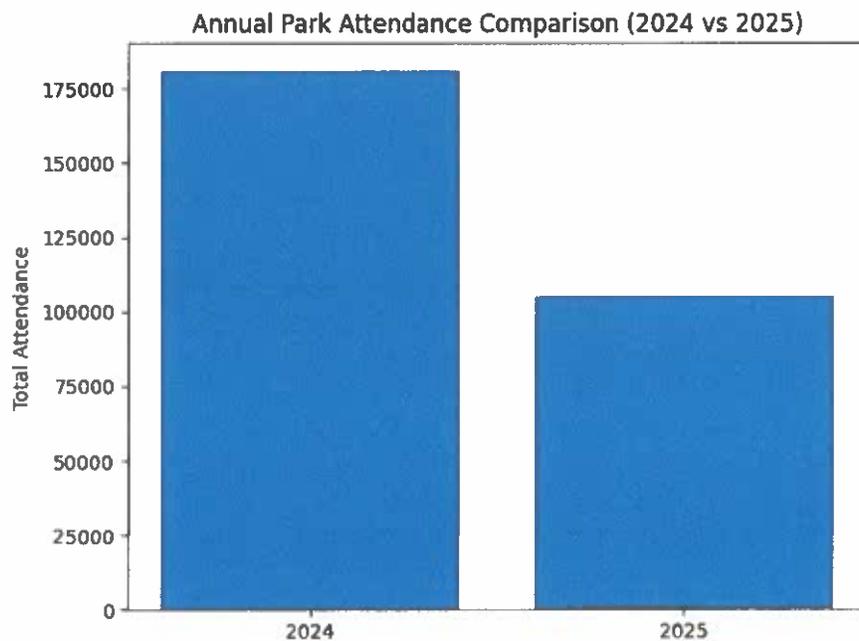
In 2025, Lynch River County Park experienced strong visitation, steady growth in reservations, and successful revenue generation across multiple amenities. Total park attendance reached **104,868 visitors**, with peak visitation occurring during the summer months and a significant increase again in December. Revenue-generating amenities—including canoe and kayak rentals, the Climbing Wall, facility reservations, and the Splash Pad—continued to enhance visitor experiences while contributing positively to overall operations.

Key Takeaways

- Park attendance in 2025 reflects a normalization following a historically high-usage year in 2024.
- Program-based recreation continues to perform well, with notable growth in canoe and kayak revenue.
- Stable Climbing Wall revenue demonstrates sustained interest and reliable operational performance.
- Targeted programming remains an effective strategy for maintaining engagement and generating revenue.

Park Attendance

Annual attendance totaled 104,868 visitors, reflecting consistent community use throughout the year. Visitation steadily increased from January through June, peaking during the summer season. December recorded the highest monthly attendance (15,426 visitors), due to Lights4Paws and Wildlife Winterfest. Overall attendance trends indicate sustained public interest and strong year-round use of park facilities.

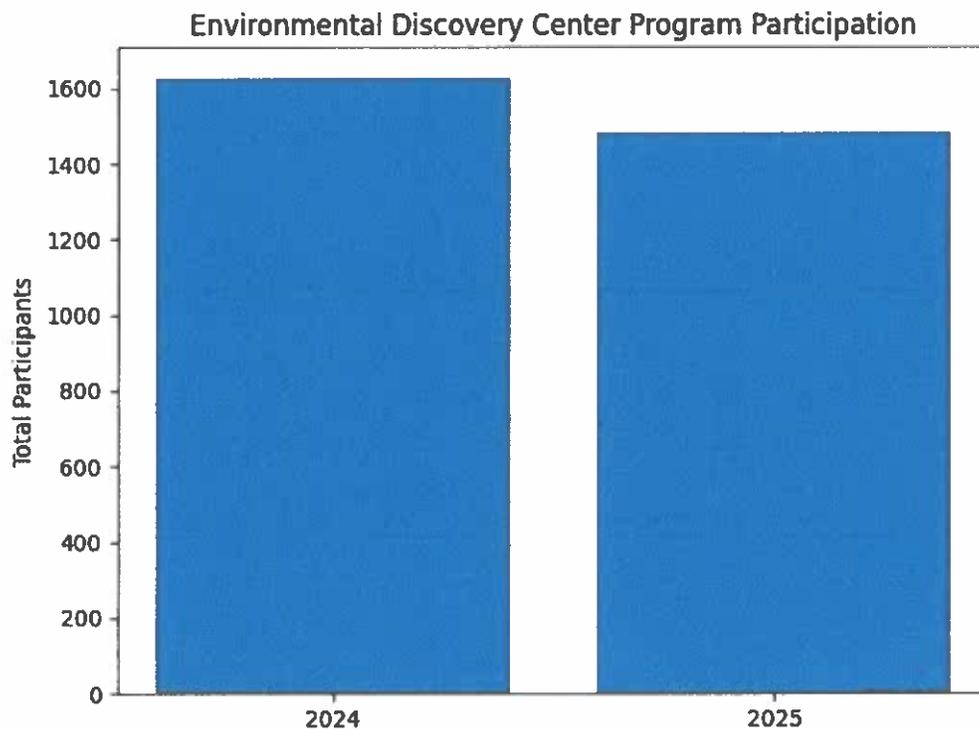


Environmental Discovery Center

Participation patterns at the Environmental Discovery Center (EDC) varied by program type, reflecting both programmatic shifts and changes in delivery methods.

Field trips remained the largest area of engagement, serving more than 1,400 participants. While field trip participation declined modestly in 2025 (-9%), it continued to represent the primary means of student engagement at the EDC.

Outreach programming experienced substantial growth in 2025 (+354%), reflecting an expanded emphasis on off-site educational programs delivered directly to schools and community groups. In addition to increasing accessibility to environmental education across the region, outreach programming also generated program revenue, contributing positively to the EDC's overall financial performance.



In 2025, the Environmental Discovery Center expanded its educational offerings with a diversified set of new programs designed to engage students across multiple grade levels. New curriculum offerings included:

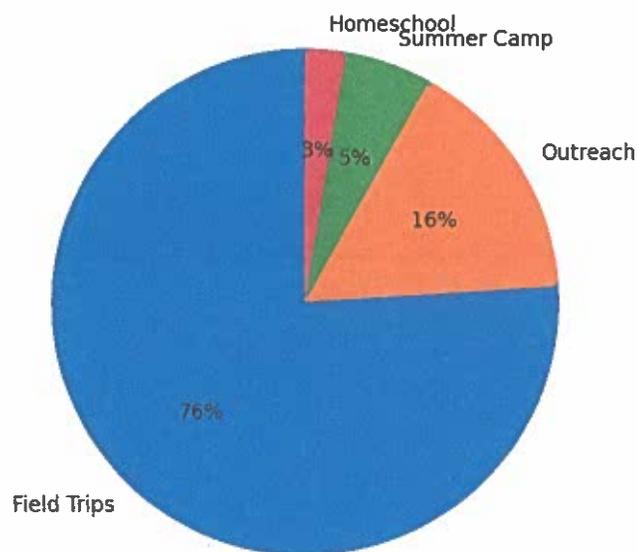
- "Where the Wild Things Are" and "We All Need Trees": tailored for 2nd grade, focusing on animal and plant habitats and adaptations.
- "Born This Way" and "Sense-Sational!": 4th-grade programs exploring life cycles and sensory perception in the natural world.

- "What's for Dinner?": designed for 5th graders to understand food webs and predator/prey relationships.
- "Oh, Deer" and "Now You See Me": 7-8th grade programs that engage students with population dynamics and camouflage strategies.
- "Gilligan's Island": a high school-level experiential learning program using a classic scenario to explore survival skills and ecological interactions.

Additionally, a monthly Homeschool Program was introduced in 2025, providing homeschool families with structured, standards-based science education opportunities.

These additions reflect a strategic expansion of the EDC's curriculum, with programs now more closely aligned to specific grade levels and designed to support both classroom and experiential learning.

Environmental Discovery Center Participation by Program Type (2025)



Facility Revenue Performance

While the Cabins and Family Campground account for the majority of reservations, the Community Building produces slightly higher overall revenue despite a lower volume of bookings. Cabin and Family Campground revenue was \$41,220, compared to \$48,415 generated by the Community Building.

Community Building

The Grand Room recorded 26 reservations for the year, with strongest activity in June, September, and December, indicating its use for larger gatherings and seasonal events.

The Honda Room followed closely with 23 reservations, peaking in spring and early summer, suggesting frequent use for mid-sized meetings or programs.

Room 2 was the most used room with 28 reservations, showing consistent demand from March through October.

Room 3 saw 17 reservations, making it the least-utilized of the four rooms, likely serving more specialized or overflow needs.

Cabins

Even with only two cabins, they are one of the most heavily used assets in the park and accounted for 382 reservations.

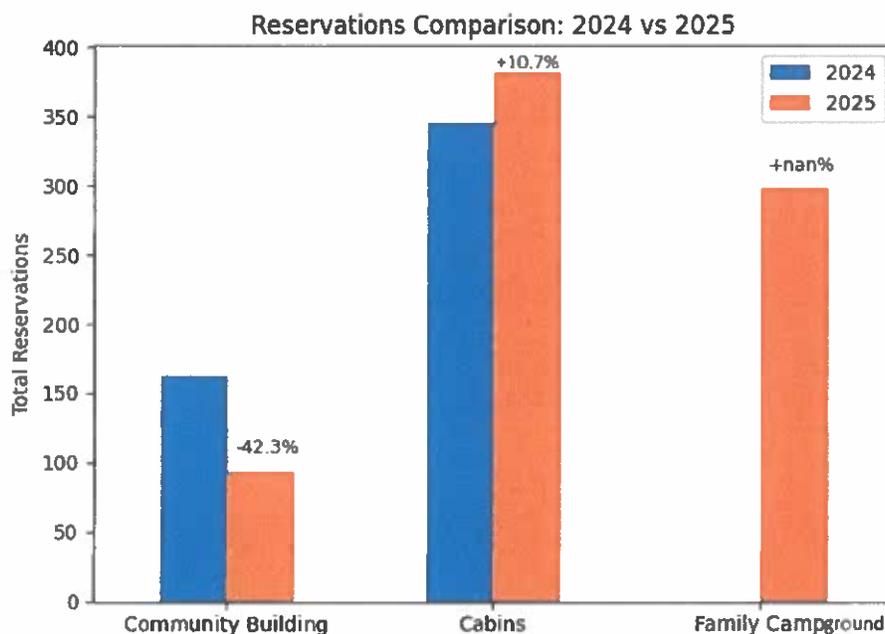
Demand was strong from March through October, with the highest usage occurring in May, June, and July. Although the two-night minimum stay requirement from Memorial Day to Labor Day played a significant role, the majority of cabin stays throughout the remainder of the 2025 season were also two nights.

Cabin reservations clearly anchor overnight stays and group visits, reinforcing their importance to both attendance and revenue stability.

Family Campground

The Family Campground saw 298 reservations (utilizing 18 sites), driven largely by summer demand (June–September). While most stays were limited to one night in length, planned improvements — including internet access, additional family-friendly activities, and incentive programs — aim to encourage longer visits.

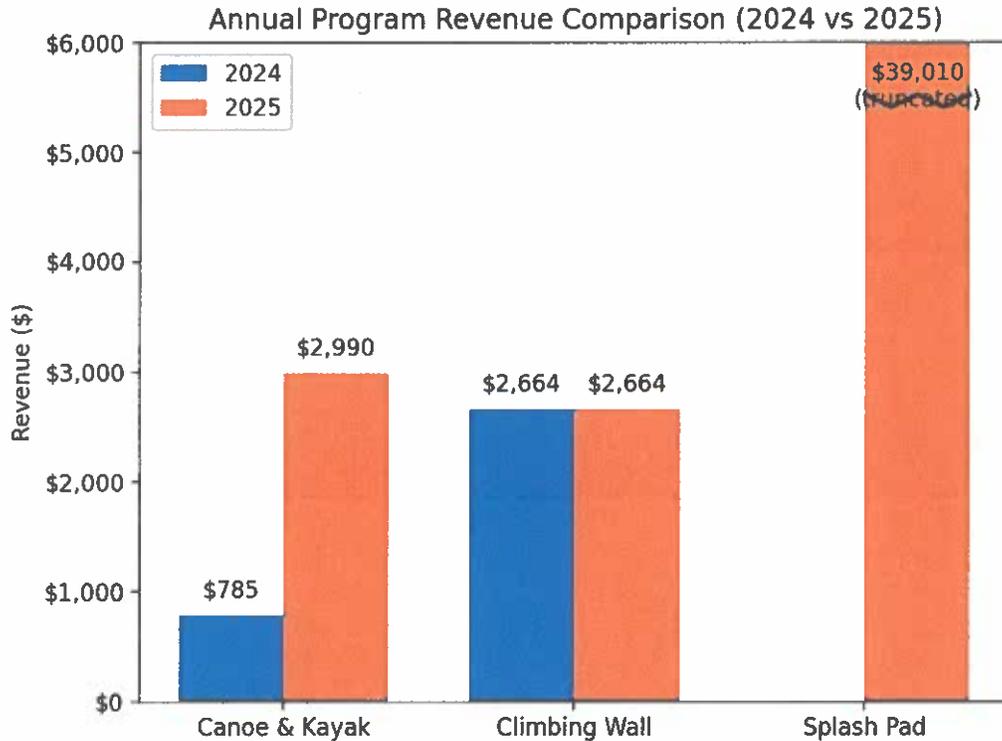
The sustained volume suggests the Family Campground is a key contributor to seasonal attendance spikes.



Note: The Splash Pad did not operate in 2023 or 2024. The Climbing Wall operated for four months in 2024 (September–December), and revenue reflects actual operating months rather than an annualized estimate.

Recreation Revenue Performance

- Canoe and Kayak Revenue — 2024: \$785 | 2025: \$2,990
- Climbing Wall Revenue — 2024: \$2,664 (Sept-Dec only) | 2025: \$2,664
- Splash Pad Revenue — 2025: \$39,010



Park Projects

- Family Campground project completed (opened January 2)
- Jan-Feb: Remodeled Community Building
 - Interior painting
 - Diamond polish and refinished floors
 - Partition walls repaired
 - Added new chairs and waste bins
- February: Replaced garage door at Shop
- April: Installed bottler filler water fountain at the Splash Pad
- March: Introduced new LRCP website (www.lynchesriverpark.com)
- May: Completed construction of new Splash Pad
- May: New park residence completed
- June: Completed construction of privacy fence at new residence
- August: Completed construction of dog park
- September: Completed repair and upgrades to main park gates
- September: Completed construction of covered porch on new residence

- September: Playground repairs completed
- September-December: Installed more than 500 outlets and 14 meter bases to prepare for first Lights4Paws event
- November: completed upgrades to registration and reservation systems
- December: Began construction of utility building for Christmas storage

Events

- 1/2: Family campground opened
- 2/3: Began park residence replacement process; new residence project completed May 22.
- 2/8: Running Wild 5K hosted by Black Creek Wildlife Center of Bishopville (66 registered; 65 finishers)
- 2/12: Presentation to Lion's Club at the Florence Country Club
- 2/15: SCDNR Hunter Education class at the EDC (8 participants)
- 3/1: Spring Glitter Globes activity at the EDC (55 participants)
- 3/4: Spring Archery Clinic began (10 participants)
- 4/5: Bunny Hop event at the EDC (40 participants)
- 4/10: Presentation to FMU Environmental Science club
- 5/3: Water Safety Day in partnership with McLeod SAFE Kids (20 participants)
- 5/24: Splash Pad Grand Re-Opening event (480+ participants)
- 6/9: Summer Camp began (157 participants)
- 7/5: Patriotic Turtles activity at the EDC (10 participants)
- 7/10: Florence County Job Fair at the Florence County Museum
- 8/2: Back-to-School Splash Bash (19 paid participants; ~45 total participants)
- 8/5: Dog Park opening day
- 8/9: SCDNR Hunter Safety course at the EDC (8 participants)
- 8/26: Celebrated National Dog Day with the Florence County K-9 units at the dog park
- 9/6: Leaf Gnome craft at the EDC (20 participants)
- 9/13: Run for Brighter Days 5K hosted by The Jonathan Foundation (145 paid participants; 132 finishers)
- 9/27: Paws on the Pad – this annual event was canceled due to inclement weather
- 10/4: Fall Door Hangers activity at the EDC (8 participants)
- 10/7: Fall Archery Clinic began (3 participants)
- 10/24: Participated in the Florence County Trunk-or-Treat event held at the County Complex (500+ participants)
- 11/1: Pumpkin Craft activity at the EDC (5 participants)
- 11/20: Sip & Stroll hosted by the Florence Area Humane Society as part of the Lights4Paws event (188 people registered; 180 attendees)

- 11/22: Santa Run 5K hosted by the Florence Area Humane Society as part of the Lights4Paws event (159 registered participants; 144 finishers)
- 12/6: Wildlife Winterfest event (1,220+ participants)
- 11/20-12/23: Lights4Paws Christmas Drive-Thru – partnership with Florence Area Humane Society (~16,900 participants overall; ~14,500 of those people paying to experience the drive-thru portion)



Reservations

#REF! CONFIDENTIAL

Facility	8/14/2025-10/1/2025	10/2/2025-11/12/2025	11/13/2025-1/8/26-2/12/26	null4	null5	null6	null7	null8	null9	null10	null11
LRCP Community Bldg	\$5,830	\$4,065	\$4,430	\$10,700							
Cabins	\$3,260	\$1,780	\$3,740	\$2,640							
Campsites	\$3,200	\$1,800	\$1,250	\$600							
LRCP Picnic Shelter	\$210	\$320	\$80	\$145							
Timmonsville	\$930	\$630	\$930	\$210							
Brooks McCall	\$1,295	\$840	\$360	\$545							
Savannah Grove	\$45			\$40							
Spaulding Heights	\$60	\$770	\$605	\$945							
Lake City(Main Street)	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40							
Lake City(Church Street)	\$170	\$285	\$150	\$75							
Ebenezer Picnic Shelters	\$1,010	\$320	\$80	\$80							
Greenwood Picnic Shelters	\$280	\$200	\$130	\$50							
LRCP Riverside Arbor	\$20	\$40	\$40	\$20							
LRCP SP/CW Combo											
LRCP Splash Pad	\$200			\$1,000							
Lake City Lake House		\$1,900	\$1,800	\$4,300							
Total	\$16,550	\$12,990	\$13,635	\$21,390	\$0						
Cumulative Total	\$16,550	\$29,540	\$43,175	\$64,565	\$64,565	\$64,565	\$64,565	\$64,565	\$64,565	\$84,565	\$64,565

