

**ORIGINAL**

**ORDINANCE NO.: 2025-055**

*Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-5 User Fees*

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-5 User Fees, Subsection (d) and (g) is amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 15-5. User fees.**

(d) *Parks.*

(1) *Finlay Park:*

<b>Park Rental Fees</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b>	<b>Application Deadline (See below for details)</b>
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission	\$2,500.00	6	1-6 hours	\$1,250.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission	\$3,000.00	7		\$1,500.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission	\$3,500.00	8		\$1,750.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission	\$5,000.00	9+	Full Day	\$2,500.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (City Holiday)	\$3,500.00	6	1-6 hours	\$1,750.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (City Holiday)	\$4,000.00	7		\$2,000.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (City Holiday)	\$4,500.00	8		\$2,250.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (City Holiday)	\$6,000.00	9+	Full Day	\$3,000.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-profit)	\$1,250.00	6	1-6 hours	\$625.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-profit)	\$1,500.00	7		\$750.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-profit)	\$1,750.00	8		\$875.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-profit)		9+	Full Day	\$1,250.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-Profit) (City Holiday)	\$1,750.00	6	1-6 hours	\$ 875.00	A or B

Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-Profit) (City Holiday)	\$2,000.00	7		\$1,000.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-Profit) (City Holiday)	\$2,250.00	8		\$1,125.00	A or B
Full Park Rental / Ticketed or Free Admission (Non-Profit) (City Holiday)	\$3,000.00	9+	Full Day	\$1,500.00	A or B
<b>Stage Rental</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b>	<b>Application Deadline (See below for details)</b>
Stage Rental (Performance Art)	\$2,500.00	6		\$1,250.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Performance Art)	\$500.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$250.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Concert)	\$2,500.00	6		\$1,250.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Concert)	\$500.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$250.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Performance Art) (Non-profit)	\$1,000.00	6		\$500.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Performance Art) (Non-profit)	\$250.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$125.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Concert) (Non-profit)	\$2,000.00	6		\$1,000.00	A or B
Stage Rental (Concert) (Non-profit)	\$250.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$125.00	A or B
<b>Wedding Packages</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b>	<b>Application Deadline (See below for details)</b>
Wedding Package (Overlook Plaza + Nest (interior) (controlled access) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$650.00	6		\$325.00	A

Wedding Package (Overlook Plaza + Nest (interior) (controlled access) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$100.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$50.00	A
Wedding Package (Overlook Plaza + Nest (interior + patio) (controlled access) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$800.00	6		\$400.00	A
Wedding Package (Overlook Plaza + Nest (interior + patio) (controlled access) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$150.00	7+	Each Additional Hour	\$75.00	A
<b>Other Event Spaces</b>					
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b>	<b>Application Deadline (See below for details)</b>
Overlook Plaza / No Controlled Access	\$250.00	2		\$125.00	A, B or C
Overlook Plaza / No Controlled Access	\$100.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$50.00	A, B or C
Overlook Plaza / Controlled Access <i>Plus the cost of Event Personnel</i>	\$350.00	2		\$175.00	A, B or C
Overlook Plaza / Controlled Access	\$100.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$50.00	A, B or C
The Nest (interior space) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage</i>	\$250.00	2		\$125.00	A, B or C
The Nest (interior space) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage</i>	\$100.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$50.00	A, B or C
The Nest (interior space + patio) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$350.00	2		\$175.00	A, B or C
The Nest (interior space + patio) <i>Plus the cost of Food &amp; Beverage and Event Personnel</i>	\$150.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$75.00	A, B or C
The Gadsden Green (excludes Pickleball)	\$250.00	2		\$125.00	A, B or C
The Gadsden Green (excludes Pickleball)	\$125.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$62.50	

The Upper Lawn	\$250.00	2		\$125.00	A, B or C
The Upper Lawn	\$125.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$62.50	
Cascade 5	\$150.00	2		\$75.00	B or C
Cascade 5	\$75.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$37.50	B or C
Cascade 6	\$150.00	2		\$75.00	B or C
Cascade 6	\$75.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$37.50	B or C
Cascade 7	\$150.00	2		\$75.00	B or C
Cascade 7	\$75.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$37.50	B or C
The Secret Garden	\$100.00	2		\$50.00	B or C
The Secret Garden	\$50.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$25.00	B or C
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b>	<b>Application Deadline (See below for details)</b>
The Landing	\$250.00	2		\$125.00	B or C
The Landing	\$125.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$62.50	B or C
The Landing and Splash Pad	\$500.00	2		\$250.00	B or C
The Landing and Splash Pad	\$250.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$125.00	B or C
The Landing, Splash Pad and Skate Rentals for up to 25 people	\$550.00	2		\$275.00	B or C
The Landing, Splash Pad and Skate Rentals for up to 25 people	\$275.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$137.50	B or C
The Landing, Splash Pad and Ping Pong	\$550.00	2		\$275.00	B or C
The Landing, Splash Pad and Ping Pong	\$275.00	3+	Each Additional Hour	\$137.50	B or C

<b>Court Rentals</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Pickleball	\$16.00	1	Off-Peak
Pickleball	\$20.00	1	Peak
<b>Ping Pong Table Rentals</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Ping Pong Table (single)	\$10.00	1	
Ping Pong Table (pair)	\$20.00	1	
<b>Sailboat Rentals</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
:30 Minute Rental	\$10.00	0.5	
:60 Minute Rental	\$15.00	1	
<b>Roller Skate Rentals</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Kids Skates	\$3.00	1	
Adult Skates	\$5.00	1	
<b>Staffing Rates</b>			
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Duration (Hours)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Production Manager	\$60.00	1	Per hour, per PM
Stage Hand	\$25.00	1	Per hour, per SH
<b>Miscellaneous Rates</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Bike Rack Barricades	\$20.00	1	Includes set-up and tear down

<b>Park Rental Event Types and Application Deadlines</b>	<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Deposit Info</b>	<b>Booking Info</b>
<b>Major Festival or Event</b>  May include: Outdoor entertainment, sale of food/beverages, service of alcohol, and/or generate revenue	A	90 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking and confirmation can begin up to 18 months in advance.

Expected attendance greater than 1,000				
<b>Festival or Event</b>  May include: Outdoor entertainment, sale of food/beverages, service of alcohol, and/or generate revenue Expected attendance less than 1,000	A	90 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking can begin up to 12 months in advance, with confirmation 120 days prior to Event. Exclusive use of Park shall be based on expected participants.
<b>Parade, Procession, March, Road Race, Bicycle Race</b>  <i>Any request to close adjacent roads will require separate City Special Events Permit (Ord. 2023-064)</i>	A	90 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking can begin up to 18 months in advance. No exclusive use of Park facilities that are not rented.
<b>Wedding and Receptions</b>  Includes ceremony and / or reception.  Unique experiences available.	A	90 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking can begin up to 18 months in advance. Other Events are subject to be booked along with Concerts or Festivals. All guests are welcome to attend.
<b>Private or Public Gathering</b>  May include: Sale or service of food/beverages, outdoor entertainment, and /or the service of alcohol	B	60 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking can begin up to 60 days in advance. No exclusive use of Park facilities that are not rented.
<b>Neighborhood Gatherings, Block Party or Walk</b>  <i>Any request to close adjacent roads will require separate City Special Events Permit (Ord. 2023-064)</i>	C	30 days prior to event	Deposit due upon contract signing	Event Booking can begin up to 18 months in advance. No exclusive use of Park facilities that are not rented.

Pursuant to Sec. 15-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia a permit is required for any person, group, association or organization desiring to use any park or recreational facility of the City of Columbia for a group of 25 individuals or more or to conduct an activity or event for which it could be reasonably assumed that 25 or more persons might gather at a park or recreational facility to participate in or witness such activity or event or a festival, (a festival being defined as a program of festive activities,

cultural events or entertainment open to the general public), shall first apply and obtain a permit from the director of parks and recreation or his designee.

All food service items, including plates, bowls, and utensils must be biodegradable. All beverage containers must be recyclable. Violations of this provision may result in an exclusion period of three (3) years for event organizers or food and drink purveyors, including food trucks.

A clean-up charge will be assessed in an amount equal to the cost of the clean-up for any person, group, association or organization using any park or recreational facility of the City of Columbia.

Organizations are limited to a maximum of one event per quarter year four (4) events per year).

**(2) Coble Plaza:**

Gated/admission (admission charged and/or controlled access, required approval by city council or their designee) (more than 2 additional hrs. requires second block of time)	\$1,000/6hr. block + \$250/each add. hr. + \$350/deposit + support fees + set up/take down
Public (no controlled access or admission fees)	\$120/hr. + support fees
City holidays	\$150/hr. + support fees
Deposit	\$350
Non-profit* (*proof of non-profit status required)	\$350 + \$75/hr. deposit + support fees
Setup/takedown (nonevent time)	\$100/hr.

- (g) *Picnic shelters:* Anna Mae Dickson, Earlewood\*, Elmwood/Roy Lynch\*, Emily Douglas, Greenview, Heathwood, Hollywood/Rose Hill, Lorick, Mays, Melrose, Page Ellington Shelter\*, Rosewood, St. Anna's, and Sims.

Time block	Fee	Parks
First Come, First Serve	Free	Anna Mae Dickson, Emily Douglas, Greenview, Heathwood, Hollywood/Rose Hill, Lorick, Mays, Melrose, Rosewood, St. Anna's, and Sims.
Daily 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	\$40 per block of time  \$40 per block of time	Earlewood Park Shelter, Elmwood/Roy Lynch Shelter, Page Ellington Shelter.

\*Designated Picnic Shelters are for reservations only. Use outside of reserved blocks may constitute trespassing.

Requested by:

Assistant City Manager Simons

Approved by:

Cheresa B. Wilson  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

[Signature]  
City Attorney

Introduced: 10/21/2025  
Final Reading: 10/28/2025

[Signature]  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Tika D. Hummer  
City Clerk