

Eco-friendly outings on a Budget

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Have you explored our town? Being sustainable means making choices that are friendly to both our Planet and our Pocketbooks. "Stay-cations" are all the rage these days, but you don't need to hide in the house to have a fabulous inexpensive weekend. Here are a few ideas for some fun Earth-friendly activities that won't break the budget here in Greenville.

- Have an old-fashioned picnic. Pack your cooler up with healthy homemade food (in reusable containers) and head out to the local park for a great evening.
- Go for a bike ride. The Swamp Rabbit Trail is a great destination for a little exercise and some family-friendly activity.
- Take a hike! Heritage preserves, parks, and other natural areas abound in the Upstate. Admission to many of these spots is either cheap or free. Follow the Swamp Rabbit Trail over to Lake Conestee Nature Park for a great place to explore nature for free only 6 miles from downtown.
- Listen to some music! The City of Greenville hosts free live music downtown on Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer, as well as a variety of fun free special events all year.
- Visit a museum. The Greenville County Museum of Art, located at 420 College St, is free to the public. Find quite a few other museums and attractions, including the Children's Garden at Linky Stone Park, are within walking distance.
- Play a game! When was the last time you played miniature golf? Tennis? Basketball? Frisbee? Disc Golf? Spaces for these and more are available for free at one of Greenville's city parks.
- Plant a garden. Play in the dirt and reap the benefits of healthy food or beautiful flowers.
- Volunteer: doing something good for your community can be both helpful and fun! Join a river sweep, help cut kudzu, or build a house. Great volunteer opportunities are always available. www.handsonnetwork.org.

