



# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



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## Resource Center News: SC Safe Routes to School Forum June 9th!

Save the Date. **Register NOW!** The SRTS Resource Center is hosting a Statewide Safe Routes to School Forum on Thursday, June 9, 2016, at Irmo Middle School in Columbia. Attendees can choose up to three breakout sessions addressing all aspects of Safe Routes to School including education strategies, encouragement programs, engineering treatments, and opportunities to get your community involved. The Forum will also feature plenary sessions and networking opportunities. Lunch and a light breakfast will be provided. [Click](#)



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator:

With the school year winding down, we know that some schools are already planning next year's calendar. Below are some dates to pencil-in!

**October 5, 2016 -**  
[International Walk to School Day](#)

**November 14-18, 2016 -**  
[Crossing Guard Appreciation Week](#)

**March 8, 2017 -** [South Carolina Walk to School Day](#)

## here to register!

This year Ian Lockwood P.E., Livable Transportation Engineer from Toole Design Group will be joining us as our keynote speaker. Ian has Bachelor & Masters Degrees in Civil Engineering from Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada). During the first decade of Ian's career, he became a proponent of "traffic calming" and what is now known as "complete streets". He led America's first two major federally-funded pilot traffic calming efforts: i) the Route 50 project in a beautiful rural area, that wanted to be preserved; and ii) its "sister project" the calming of a network of State arterials and local roads in a blighted city and downtown that wanted to be revitalized. Both efforts defied conventional transportation thinking, both had effective public involvement, both were challenging and, in the end, both were successes. Since then, Ian has employed and built on these same lessons in diverse contexts in cities and states across North America to help solve other difficult challenges. Based in Toole Design Group's Orlando office, his current work includes walkability projects, restoring 1-way streets to 2-way, taming arterials, shared spaces, policy reform, and designing main streets, campuses, and downtowns.

We look forward to hearing from Ian at the Forum, and we hope you'll join us!

## Upcoming Event: International Level Crossing Awareness Day

**International Level Crossing Awareness Day is June 10<sup>th</sup>!** Before summer vacation educate your students and their families on how to be safe around railroad crossings and railroad tracks when they're traveling on foot, on bike, or by car. Always expect a train where there are tracks! Never try to beat the train!

Click [here to review](#) safety lesson plans, teacher resources, and videos for children.

## May 10, 2017 - [National Bike to School Day](#)

Please schedule meetings with your [SOC](#) this summer to begin planning your 2016-2017 school year events. Think of new ways to make these annual events exciting for your students. Provide healthy snacks, organize music or invite mascots to participate in your Walk to School Days! In the past, mascots from these groups and organizations have been happy to take part:

- Universities and Colleges including Benedict College, Clemson University, SC State and the University of South Carolina
- High school bands, mascots, and athletes
- Local sports teams
- Area non-profits and advocacy groups
- Local businesses including Chick-Fil-A, Food Lion, and Publix.

## Grant Opportunity: Dollar General Literacy Grant

Have you found a way to combine physical exercise, such as biking to school, with literacy? Then, this grant opportunity may be perfect

Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit dedicated to railroad education, may also have some volunteers willing to [educate your students](#)! Contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) to let us know about your railroad safety plans!

## Partner Highlight: Bike to School Day Events

**Upstate:** Chartwells and the Spartanburg City Bike police officers helped Jesse Boyd Elementary celebrate Bike to School Day with the theme of "Finish the Race". All participants met at an assigned meeting location and biked to school together with the bike police leading the pack. Participants were given breakfast and games were set up outside the school once they arrived.

**Midlands:** Cherryvale Elementary, in Sumter, encouraged all students to bike or walk to school on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Cherryvale's Safe Routes to School team designated a route in the school's surrounding neighborhood for students to meet and ride/walk together to school on the day of their event. Cherryvale Elementary also celebrated winning the Bike to School Day SmartStart Bike Share Giveaway from the National Center for Safe Routes to School and Schwinn!

**Lowcountry:** Biking is a daily part of life for the students at Red Cedar Elementary in Bluffton. Bike to School Day participation is a celebration of the students that bike every day! The sustainable walking and biking program at Red Cedar Elementary has helped the school become a Gold level partner school with the SRTS Resource Center. Way to go, Red Cedar Elementary School!

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for your school. If you have a bikes and books program or something similar consider applying for the Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants. The Youth Literacy Grants are offered to schools, libraries, and non-profits to help struggling readers improve and attain proficiency. To learn more follow this link: [Dollar General Literacy Grant](#). The deadline to apply is Thursday, May 19, 2016.

## Spotlight on a Friend:

Are you a friend of the SRTS Resource Center and want to be represented at our Statewide Forum? If so, contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for details. Join other friends and partners who are participating as vendors, sponsors, and speakers. See below for a list of vendors so far participating this year:

- Active Gamecocks
- Operation Lifesaver
- Palmetto Cycling Coalition
- Palmetto Health Trauma
- ThinkFirst!
- Safe Kids South Carolina

"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!



*The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is a program of the South Carolina DOT*