

District 6 News

Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester and Jasper counties

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District 6 clears the way

Every local SCDOT Maintenance Office is required to maintain an Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management (IRVM) Plan.

There are various activities that are performed by SCDOT or subcontractors to support the goals of this plan. They include: Mowing, Brush Management, Hand Trimming, ODA Window Mowing, Routine Mowing, Safety Mowing, Herbicide Application, Grassing, Limb Management, Tree Removal and Debris Removal.

The purpose of this plan is to provide a safe roadway and it also allows the Department to reclaim its right-of-way that may have been lost due to vegetation overgrowth.

Mechanical mowing uses various types of equipment to maintain clear zones free of obstructions and to allow vehicles, which may leave the travel way, to recover. Mowing is necessary to maintain adequate site distances, roadside ditches, and the integrity of associated structures, such as fences. Mowing helps keep an aesthetically pleasing appearance of the roadside for the traveling public.

District 6 has added two Caterpillar 320E Excavators to the list of equipment that will aid in accomplishing the IRVM

Plan. The machine is a modern day mechanical lumberjack.

The Loftness cutter head allows the machine to cut various heights and diameters of trees depending on the skill level of the operator. These machines are a great all-around excavator, easy to maneuver, yet powerful enough to handle tough jobs. They have many modern conveniences such as: coat hook, beverage and literature holder, storage shelf suitable for lunch or toolbox, adjustable armrest and color LCD display showing warning fluid/filter change and working hour information.

They have been modified to provide safety for the operator with cages and more maneuverable controls. These machines are located in Charleston and Colleton counties. They have dedicated operators **Legree F. Alston** and **Luther "Bubba" Erwin, III**.

Alston has been with Charleston Maintenance for 25 years as a Trades Specialist III. Erwin has been with Colleton Maintenance for 2 years as a Trades Specialist III. These employees have had extensive training inside and outside SCDOT on heavy equipment. Their knowledge of proper use of these machines is apparent when you see the various job sites.



Legree F. Alston



Got
news?

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Luther Erwin III



Meet Craig Brown



Craig R. Brown, a graduate of University of North Carolina at Charlotte, began his career with SCDOT in 1985 at the research and materials lab in Columbia. He is currently the Resident Maintenance Engineer in Berkeley County. Prior to becoming RME he worked as an Assistant Maintenance Engineer and Construction Project Engineer.

Brown's hobbies are weight lifting and restoring old cars.

He is the proud owner of a 1967 RS Camaro convertible, and drove it in the 2014 and 2015 Hotrod Power Tour, Long Haulers Group.



Brown restores old cars including his 1967 RS Camaro convertible.