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Visit York County and Winthrop University will host the NCAA Southeast Regional Cross County Championships this Friday

Visit York County and Winthrop University have teamed up to host the NCAA Southeast Regional Cross Country Championships on Friday, November 9, 2018. The women's race begins at 11 a.m. and the men's race begins at 12 p.m. There will be more than 40 Division I programs coming to race at Winthrop Lake.

The NCAA Southeast Regional Cross Country Championships is a regional qualifier to advance individuals and teams to the Championship the following weekend in Madison, Wisconsin on November 17. This will be the first ever NCAA Championship held in Rock Hill, SC.

"We look forward to attending the NCAA Southeast Regional Cross Country Championships at Winthrop University this week", says Julie Levesque, NCAA Division Track & Field and Cross Country Committee Chair. "We anticipate a great event for all of the student-athletes and we hope everyone has a fantastic time in Rock Hill."

This will be the first awarded NCAA Championship in South Carolina from the 2016 bid cycle since the removal of the confederate flag from the State House (NCAA Championships were held in SC last year due to the NC HB2 bill).

"This has been a goal of mine since day one," says Ben Paxton, Winthrop University Head Cross Country and Track & Field Coach. "For 26 years, I have known that we have a championship worthy course to showcase and with the help of Visit York County we will finally be able to put our best foot forward."

Back in 2016, the Visit York County staff submitted a bid to host this event and were awarded the event in February of 2017.

"Visit York County is proud to host the NCAA Southeast Regional Cross Country Championships," says Andy Clinton, Visit York County VP of Sales. "The partnership with Winthrop University has been vital to

put on an event of this magnitude, and we hope to represent the university, City of Rock Hill and state of South Carolina well; as it is our goal to bring more NCAA Championships to York County."

The event is free for spectators and there will be concessions, merchandise, and music to enjoy. Suggested times for spectators to attend are between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

For more information, please log on to https://winthropeagles.com/sports/2018/10/4/ncaa-cross-country-regional.aspx?id=306

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VISIT YORK COUNTY (also known as the Rock Hill/York County Convention & Visitors Bureau) Visit York County is the destination marketing organization (DMO) responsible for developing an authentic, unified identity for York County, SC. As a DMO, the CVB's goals are to promote the long-term development and marketing of their destination, focusing on convention, sports and leisure sales, tourism marketing and services. The organization works in collaboration with the CVB Board as well as the York County Council and appropriate funding sources. In 2008, the Rock Hill/York County CVB became the first accredited destination marketing organization in South Carolina. For more information, log on to visityorkcounty.com.