# Carolina Fence Company Highlights Automatic Gate Entrapment Risks and Routine Safety Checks

*October 30, 2026*

SUMMERVILLE, SC - October 30, 2026 -
October is Gate Safety Awareness Month, and Carolina Fence Company encourages Summerville property owners to review how people use powered vehicle entrances and why routine safety testing matters. As part of its automatic gate installation services, Carolina Fence Company tests and adjusts gates to help verify their operation and safety features. The awareness month also gives property owners a timely reason to review how pedestrians, children, and drivers interact with powered entrances.

The California Building Standards Commission recognized Gate Safety Awareness Month in an October 2 notice. Although the notice does not establish a South Carolina requirement or indicate that a particular gate is defective, it offers a reminder to look beyond whether a powered gate opens and closes. Drivers, pedestrians, children near the fence, and people using access controls may encounter different hazards around the same entrance.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) warns that children should not play on or around automatic gates or put their hands, legs, or heads through openings. Its guidance also recommends a separate entrance for pedestrians rather than having them pass through a vehicle gate. Entrapment can occur where a moving gate travels near a post, fence, roller, or other fixed object.

Property owners should pay particular attention to pedestrian access. Someone following a vehicle may approach as the gate begins closing, while a person reaching through a fence to operate a control could place an arm near moving equipment. Signs and a separate pedestrian opening can help direct foot traffic, but they do not replace functioning safety devices. Children and visitors should be kept away from the gate's moving parts.

A visual inspection can reveal warning signs such as damaged guards, exposed rollers, missing warning signs, or controls positioned close to moving parts. However, looking at a gate cannot confirm that its sensors

or reversing features work correctly. Those features need to be checked according to the operator's instructions and the manufacturer's recommended procedures.

The owner can prepare for a safety check by locating the gate's make and model, operating manual, and service information. A qualified provider can follow the appropriate testing procedure to check relevant protection devices and identify any faults. No one should use a person, pet, or body part to test a gate, and safety sensors should never be bypassed to keep malfunctioning equipment running.

The CPSC's automatic-gate safety guidance predates this year's awareness campaign. It explains the importance of preventing entrapment, while the appropriate equipment and testing procedures depend on the particular installation and its manufacturer. A photoelectric sensor, sensing edge, or other protective device is useful only when it is suitable for the hazard and functions as intended. If a gate behaves unexpectedly, people should stay clear until its condition has been assessed.

Fence installation and automatic gate safety also intersect during project planning. Carolina Fence Company installs automatic gates and tests and adjusts them as part of the installation process. When a new fence will run beside a powered gate, discussing the fence line, pedestrian access, and control locations early can help property owners plan how people will move through the entrance and clarify which provider is responsible for the powered equipment.

This coordination is particularly important at shared entrances used by residents, visitors, employees, or delivery drivers. A clearly planned pedestrian route can reduce confusion around moving equipment, while appropriate safety devices provide an additional layer of protection. Neither should be treated as a substitute for the other.

Property owners and managers can also keep records of safety checks, including the date, devices tested, any faults identified, and recommended follow-up. Keeping the operator's manual and service information accessible makes it easier to track the gate's maintenance needs and arrange further checks when appropriate.

Gate Safety Awareness Month is a useful prompt to review these precautions, but safety should remain an ongoing responsibility. A gate that opens and closes normally is not necessarily safe; its protective devices must also function as intended.

Carolina Fence Company provides automatic gate installation services in the Summerville area, including operational testing and adjustments during installation. The company encourages property owners to consider pedestrian access, entrapment hazards, and the condition of safety devices when planning powered entrances.

###

For more information about Carolina Fence Company, contact the company here:Carolina Fence Company - SummervilleAlex Buckman+18433058284alex@carolinafencecompany.com1544 State Rd Suite 107, Summerville, SC 29486, United States


**Carolina Fence Company**

Website: https://carolinafencecompany.com/

Email: alex@carolinafencecompany.com

Phone: +18433058284