

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
BEAUFORT COUNTY GOVERNMENT ROBERT SMALLS COMPLEX
100 RIBAUT ROAD
POST OFFICE DRAWER 1228
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-1228
TELEPHONE: (843) 255-2180
www.bcgov.net

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CONNIE L. SCHROYER
CLERK TO COUNCIL

AGENDA
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Monday, December 17, 2018

3:00 p.m.

Executive Conference Room, Administration Building
Beaufort County Government Robert Smalls Complex
100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort

Committee Members:

Brian Flewelling, Chairman
Roberts "Tabor" Vaux, Vice Chairman
Rick Caporale
Gerald Dawson
Steve Fobes
York Glover
Alice Howard

Staff Support:

Eric Greenway, Community Development Director
Gary James, Assessor
Eric Larson, Division Director
Environmental Engineering
Dan Morgan, Mapping & Applications Director

1. CALL TO ORDER – 3:00 p.m.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. UPDATES – *Eric Greenway*
 - A. Previous Planning Commission Meeting
 - B. Previous Southern Lowcountry Regional Planning Commission (SOLOCO) Meeting
4. PRESENTATION / BEAUFORT CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT – *Presented by Denise Parsick, Commissioner, Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District (backup)*
5. DISCUSSION / TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE / SHORT TERM RENTALS: ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.1.60 (CONSOLIDATED USE TABLE) AND 3.1.70 (LAND USE DEFINITIONS); ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.1.360 (SPECIFIC TO USE) TO ADD NEW USES CALLED LIMITED HOME RENTAL AND EXTENDED HOME RENTAL – *Eric Greenway (backup)*
6. DISCUSSION / RESURRECTION OF CORNERS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION DISTRICT – *Rob Merchant*
7. DISCUSSION / DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE FOR OSPREY POINT-MALIND BLUFF – *Chairman Flewelling*
8. ADJOURNMENT





Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District

Serving Beaufort County for over 75 years

Mission

“To help people conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment by promoting wise land use practices, environmental education, and technical assistance.”



Crystal Lake Park

- Work as the “Meet & Greet” agency at this Beaufort County Passive Park
- Inform Citizens about the Park
- Arrange meeting room schedule for the County & other organizations
- Monitor Cameras, assist county workers with building & park maintenance & assist sheriffs office with area investigations
- Provide outreach displays, activities, and short tours for visitors at the park





EDUCATION PROGRAMS

“In-House Field Trips”



20+ outreach programs available



ECO CAMP

Our Annual Week long, half day, environmental science summer camp

BSWCD Presented our 29th Eco Camp this year!

Going...Going...Gone!! Threatened, Endangered, and Extinct Species



EARTH DAY over the Years

Beaufort SWCD has been organizing Earth Day for many years & in recent years have partnered with The Port Royal Farmers Market. Local presenters include: Clemson Extension, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Coastal Kingdom, Friends of Hunting Island, SCDHEC, BC Recycling, BJWSA, Parris Island & Air Station Natural Resources, USDA-NRCS, Farm Services Agency, Lowcountry Estuarium, Port Royal Sound, Coastal Conservation League



FESTIVALS, EVENTS & CLEANUPS

KidFest: Part of the Steering committee to bring this important event to Beaufort annually

Soft Shell Crab Festival: Encourage environmental agencies & partners to participate

Broad Creek/Shelter Cove Water Festivals & Clean Ups

May River Sweeps & Clean Ups



Bluffton Earth Day



Bluffton Art & Seafood Festival



Broad Creek Clean Water Fest



World Ocean Day



Arbor Day



KidFest

SUBARU
Subaru of Hilton Head
Present a fun & educational event for families

the outside FOUNDATION

keep the **BROAD CREEK CLEAN** festival

THURSDAY AUGUST 11TH
AT SHELTER COVE HARBOUR & MARINA

It's all about the water!

2-5PM: **KAYAK-BASED CLEAN-UP**

4-7PM: **DOCKSIDE EXHIBITS, CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES**

7PM: **SHANNON TANNER LIVE!**

Please help to keep my home clean!

EXHIBITORS

COASTAL DISCOVERY MUSEUM

12 HARD-TO-RECYCLE
We will be collecting: news, ink, bottles, laptops, cell phones, long fluorescent bulbs & CFLs

For more information, visit HMH.OUTSIDEFOUNDATION.ORG or call 804.692.1820



WATER QUALITY COALITION

- Together for Beaufort County & Human Service Alliance Member
- Chair for Water Quality in T4BC
- Work with Lowcountry Stormwater Partners on similar projects
- Attract decision makers to quarterly meetings
- Provide speakers that report on scientific data & research
- Keep informed on water quality issues throughout the county
- Keep agencies connected for activities occurring in the county



**Beaufort
Blueways**
PADDLING TRAILS

BEAUFORT/PORT ROYAL TRAIL

This unique self-guided Blueways trail follows the Beaufort River between the historic towns of Beaufort and Port Royal, SC.

This is a 6.3 mile one way or 12.6 mile round trip trail. Highlights include the Town of Port Royal, the SC Heritage Trust Site of Fort Frederick, and the National Historic Landmark City of Beaufort.



For further information including GPS waypoints, interpretive information, and tips for paddling this trail, see

www.beaufortblueways.info or the signage at the two points of entry: Lady's Island Public Landing (Beaufort) or the Sands Public Landing (Port Royal).

For equipment rental, consult local outfitters.

TRAILS DEVELOPMENT

Penn Center Trail

Assorted School Trails & Outdoor Learning Centers

Assist Boy Scouts with making and clearing trails in Beaufort County

BLUEWAYS PADDLING TRAILS

Beaufort Blueways

Penn Center Trail

ACE Basin Trail

Whale Branch Trail

To view the full list of paddling trails and details of each trail, Google Beaufort Blueways or the link below.

<http://beaufortblueways.info/>

Statistics!

Beaufort SWCD provides an average of 251 programs including festival hours each year!

Beaufort SWCD educates an average of over 6,000 children and adults each year!

Beaufort SWCD provides Technical Assistance including meeting contacts to an average of 1,450 citizens each year!

Partners, Partners, Partners...



ACE Basin
National Estuarine Research Reserve



Beaufort County
Open Land Trust



Beaufort Kayak Tours



**Port Royal
FARMER'S MARKET**



MARITIME CENTER
experience • discover • explore • connect



**Saint Peter's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Lowcountry Resource,
Conservation, and Development



USDA-NRCS Provides Cost share for Best Management Practice

BMP's help keep our water clean & make the land more sustainable by :

- Reducing sedimentation into nearby waters
- Offering protection for threatened and endangered species
- Fighting invasive species
- Keeping livestock out of area waters



Seasonal High Tunnels extend the growing season



Water Conservation through Drip irrigation also protects area waters against run off of fertilizers into adjacent waterways.

Prescribed Burning



Easement Boundary Sign



Undersecretary of Agriculture Robert Bonnie, toured farms in Beaufort County

NRCS Special Events



Okatie 319 Watershed Grant, Ribbon cutting for an Oxygenated Manure Composting Facility



Film premier of St. Helena; a Better Place. Film Director, Diane Leone, NRCS, and Amber Von Harten



Landowner Chuck Henry & Commissioner Luke Inabinett at the Film premier of St. Helena; a Better Place.



Federal Partnership: USDA-NRCS

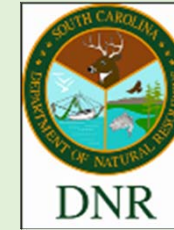
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Through the Beaufort Conservation District Partnership with USDA-NRCS, Beaufort County has received...

- \$742,263 in cost share over the last 8 years
- Over \$5,700,000 of federal funds for Farm easements totaling about 1600 acres.
- Over \$2,000,000 for Emergency Watershed Protection Program to clean up damage from Hurricane Matthew



NRCS



Cost Share & Grants for BMPs

Technical Assistance for BMPs

Prime Farm Land Easements

Workshops & Outreach Materials

Crystal Lake Park

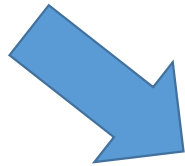


Board Elections, Appointments & guidance

Education Outreach, Resources, & Technical Assistance

Annual State Funding (Same for each County)

SCACD, NACD, SCCDEA





MEMORANDUM

To: Natural Resources Committee of Beaufort County Council
From: Eric Greenway, AICP, Community Development Director
Subject: Amendment to the Community Development Code (CDC) to add requirements for Short Term Rentals
Date: December 13, 2018

Summary: The purpose of this amendment is to address short-term rentals by introducing new uses that clarify the operational parameters, development standards, approval/permitting procedures and compliance processes for short-term rentals for properties within Beaufort County’s jurisdiction. The code currently only allows such uses as bed and breakfast or inns and this amendment will clarify the definitions of short term rental(s) and replaces the use of bed and breakfast with Limited Home Rental (LHR) and Inns with Extended Home Rental (EHR).

Planning Commission Recommendation: At their December 3 meeting, the Beaufort County Planning Commission recommended that Beaufort County Council adopt the proposed amendments to the CDC. Present at the meeting were Robert Semmler, Ed Pappas, Diane Chmelik, Dr. Caroline Fermin, Kevin Hennelly, Jason Hincer, Randolph Stewart, and Cecily McMillan. Harold Mitchell was absent. Cecily McMillan motioned to forward the recommendation to Beaufort County Council. Caroline Fermin seconded. Motion carried with Jason Hincer voting no.

Amended Sections of the CDC: These amendments affect the following sections of the CDC – Section 3.1.60 Consolidated Use Table; Section 3.1.70 Land Use Definitions; Section 4.1.360 Limited Home Rental and Extended Home Rental.

3.1.60 Consolidated Use Table

Table 3.1.60. Consolidated Use Table (continued)																		
Land Use Type	T1 N	T2R	T2 RL	T2 RN	T2 RNO	T2 RC	T3E	T3 HN	T3 N	T3 NO	T4 HC	T4 VC	T4 HCO	T4 NC	C3	C4	C5	SI
RETAIL & RESTAURANTS (continued)																		
15. Day Care: Family Home (up to 8 clients)	--	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	TCP	TCP	--
16. Day Care: Commercial Center (9 or more clients)	--	--	--	--	C	C	--	--	--	C	C	C	C	C	TCP	C	C	C
17. Lodging: <u>Bed & Breakfast (5 rooms or less) Limited Home Rental (LHR)</u>	--	S	S	--S	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	TCP	TCP	TCP	--
18. <u>Lodging: Extended Home Rental (EHR)</u>	==	S	==	==	S	S	==	==	==	==	P	P	P	P	TCP	P	P	==
19. Lodging: Inn (up to 24 rooms)	--	S	--	--	--	P	--	--	--	--	P	P	P	P	TCP	P	P	--
20. Lodging: Hotel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	--	P	P	--

“P” indicates a Use that is Permitted By Right.
 “C” indicates a Use that is Permitted with Conditions.
 “S” indicates a Use that is Permitted as a Special Use.
 “TCP” indicates a Use that is permitted only as part of a Traditional Community Plan under the requirements in Division 2.3
 “--” indicates a Use that is not permitted.

3.1.70 Land Use Definitions

OFFICES AND SERVICES

This category is intended to encompass activities, without outdoor storage needs, that are primarily oriented towards office and service functions.

Land Use Type	Definition
10. Day Care: Family Care Home	A state-licensed facility in a private home where an occupant of the residence provides non-medical care and supervision for up to 8 unrelated adults or children, typically for periods of less than 24 hours per day for any client.
11. Day Care: Commercial Center	A state-licensed facility that provides non-medical care and supervision for more than 8 adults or children, typically for periods of less than 24 hours per day for any client. Facilities include, but are not limited to: nursery schools, preschools, after-school care facilities, and daycare centers.
12. Lodging: <u>Bed & Breakfast (B&B)</u> <u>Limited Home Rental (LHR)</u>	The use of a single residential structure for commercial lodging purposes, with up to 5 guest rooms used for the purpose of lodging transient guests and in which meals may be prepared for them, provided that no meals may be sold to persons other than such guests, and where the owner resides on the property as his/her principal place of residence. <u>A property with an owner-occupied residential dwelling where lodging is offered, advertised, or provided to Short-Term Rental Tenants (excluding family members) for a fee or any form of compensation, not to exceed 72 days in the aggregate during any calendar year, with individual rental terms not exceeding 29 consecutive days.</u>
13. <u>Lodging:</u> <u>Extended Home Rental (EHR)</u>	<u>A property with an owner- or non-owner occupied residential dwelling where lodging is offered, advertised, or provided to Short-Term Rental Tenants (excluding family members) for a fee or any form of compensation, for more than 72 days but not to exceed 144-days in the aggregate during any calendar year.</u>
14. Lodging: Inn	A building or group of buildings used as a commercial lodging establishment having up to 24 guest rooms providing lodging accommodations to the general public.

4.1.360 Short-Term Rentals

A. Purpose and Applicability

1. Purpose. The County is committed to working to protect the traditional quality of life and character of its residential neighborhoods. The County has concerns about permitted short-term rentals resulting in increased traffic, noise, trash, parking needs, safety and possible adverse impacts and other undesirable changes to the nature of the County's neighborhoods. Therefore, the County Council finds it appropriate and in the best interests of its residents, property owners, and visitors to regulate Short-Term Rental Properties (STRPs) within unincorporated County of Charleston.

This Article sets out standards for establishing and operating Short-Term Rental Properties. These regulations are intended to provide for an efficient use of residential dwellings as STRPs by:

- a. Providing for an annual permitting process to regulate STRP's;
- b. Balancing the interests of owner-occupied dwellings with properties that are frequently used in whole or in part by Short-Term Rental Tenants;
- c. Allowing homeowners to continue to utilize their residences in the manner permitted by this Ordinance for the Zoning District in which a particular home is located;

- d. Providing alternative accommodation options for lodging in residential dwellings; and
- e. Complementing the accommodation options in environments that are desirable and suitable as a means for growing tourism.

2. Applicability.

- a. **Short-Term Rental Types.** The following Short-Term Rentals shall be authorized

- 1) **Limited Home Rental (LHR)** - a property with an owner-occupied residential dwelling, where lodging is offered, advertised, or provided to Short-Term Rental Tenants (excluding family members) for a fee or any form of compensation, not to exceed 72 days in the aggregate during any calendar year, with individual rental terms not exceeding 29 consecutive days.

- 2) **Extended Home Rental (EHR)** - a property with an owner- or non-owner occupied residential dwelling where lodging is offered, advertised, or provided to Short-Term Rental Tenants (excluding family members) for a fee or any form of compensation, for more than 72 days but not to exceed 144-days in the aggregate during any calendar year, with individual rental terms not exceeding 29 consecutive days. To establish a EHR, a property owner must obtain a Special Exception from the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) pursuant to the requirements of Article 3.6 of this Ordinance.

- b. **Applicable Zoning Districts.** STRPs shall be allowed within the Zoning Districts of this Ordinance in accordance with Article 3, Section 3.1.60 (Consolidated Use Table).

- c. **Application.** Applications for STRPs shall be made in compliance with this Article.

- 3. **Registration.** All STRPs require a Zoning Permit and Business License. Upon adoption of this Ordinance, STRPs will have 30 calendar days to submit applications to comply with the provisions of this Article and an additional 90 calendar days to obtain all required Zoning Permits for the STRP use.

B. Operating Standards and Requirements

1. Permits and Renewals

- a. After a LHR STRP use has been authorized through the applicable zoning process(es), a Zoning Permit for a STRP use and a Business License must be obtained prior to offering, advertising, or providing Short-Term Rental Properties for lodging as provided for in this Article.

- b. After an EHR STRP use has been authorized by the Board of Zoning Appeals, a Zoning Permit for a STRP use and a Business License must be obtained prior to offering, advertising, or providing Short-Term Rental Properties for lodging as provided for in this Article.

- c. Zoning Permits for all STRP uses must be renewed annually in compliance with this Article.

2. Short-Term Rental Property Tenant Notices

- a. Each STRP must contain a Short-Term Rental Tenant notice posted in each room where Short-Term Rental Tenants may lodge. The notice must provide the following information:

- 1) Contact information for the owner of the STRP;
- 2) Zoning Permit Number for the STRP use;
- 3) Trash collection location and schedules, if applicable; and
- 4) Fire and Emergency evacuation routes.

C. General Standards

1. Use Limitations and Standards.

- a. Legally permitted Principal Dwelling Units and Accessory Dwelling Units may be used as STRPs, even when they are located on the same property; however, Accessory Structures shall not be used as STRPs.
- b. Parking for Short-Term Rental Tenants shall be in compliance with Division 3.2 of the County Community Development Code.
- c. Signage advertising STRPs is prohibited in Residential Zoning Districts.

2. Advertising. Whether by a hosting platform, via Internet or paid advertising, or other postings, advertisements, or announcements, the availability of a STRP shall include the County issued Zoning Permit Number and Business License Number.

3. Annual Zoning Permit Renewal.

- a. Zoning Permits for all STRPs must be renewed annually. An application for annual renewal of the Zoning Permit must include:
 - 1) The application fee;
 - 2) A notarized affidavit signed by the property owner stating that the type of STRP use and the information submitted as part of the application for the previous year's Zoning Permit for the STRP use has not changed in any manner whatsoever and that the STRP use complies with the most recently adopted version of this Article (form of Affidavit Provided by the County); and
 - 3) The applicant shall file an application for a new Zoning Permit for a STRP use if the aforementioned requirements are not met.
- b. If the Director of the Community Development Department determines that the STRP use is not consistent with the Special Exception that authorizes the use and/or Site Plan Review approval that authorizes the use, the applicant shall file an application for a new Zoning Permit for the STRP use, including applicable Special Exception and/or Site Plan Review applications and fees.
- c. By the end of January of each calendar year, the owners of all registered STRPs will be mailed an annual renewal notice informing them that they must renew the Zoning Permit for the STRP use on or before April 1st of the same calendar year or their existing Zoning Permit will expire. The Zoning Permit for the STRP use will terminate on April 1st of each year regardless of whether or not the applicant receives notice from the Zoning and Planning Department Director.

D. Use Limitations and Requirements

1. Applicability. The limitations and requirements of this Section apply to all types of Short-Term Rental Properties (STRPs).

2. Application Submittal Requirements. No application for a STRP shall be accepted as complete unless

- a. The name, address, email, and telephone number of all property owners of the Short-Term Rental Property (STRP).
- b. Completed Short-Term Rental Property application signed by all current property owner(s). For properties owned by corporations or partnerships, the applicant must submit a resolution of the corporation or partnership authorizing and granting the applicant signing and authority to act and conduct business on behalf of and bind the corporation or partnership.
- c. Restricted Covenants Affidavit(s) signed by the applicant or current property owner(s) in compliance with state law.
- d. Address and Property Identification Number of the property on which the STRP is located.
- e. The type of STRP that is the subject of the application, which may be a Limited Home Rental (LHR) or an Extended Home Rental (EHR).
- f. The type of Dwelling Unit(s) that is proposed to be used as a STRP including, but not limited to, Principal Dwelling Unit, Accessory Dwelling Unit, Single Family Detached, Single Family Attached, Manufactured Housing Unit, and/or Multi Family, and documentation of Zoning Permit and Building Permit approvals for the structures, as applicable.
- g. The maximum number of bedrooms in the Dwelling Unit(s) proposed to be used as a STRP.

E. Enforcement and Violations

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Ordinance, a STRP Zoning Permit may be administratively revoked by the Community Development Department Director or his designee if the STRP has violated the provisions of this Article on three or more occasions within a 12-month period. Provided however, a STRP Zoning Permit may be immediately revoked if the Community Development Department Director determines the STRP has Building Code violations, there is no Business License for the property, the property is being used in a manner not consistent with the Zoning Permit issued for the STRP use, or the advertisement for the STRP does not include the County issued Zoning Permit Number and Business License Number.
 2. If a STRP Zoning Permit is administratively revoked or an application for a STRP Zoning Permit is administratively denied, a STRP owner (or authorized agent) may appeal the Community Development Department Director's administrative decision revoking or denying the STRP Zoning Permit to the Board of Zoning Appeals within 30 calendar days from the date of the denial or revocation. All appeals shall be addressed in accordance with the appeal procedures of CHAPTER 3, Article 3.13, of this Ordinance.
 3. Subsequent Application. Once a County-issued Zoning Permit and/or a Business License for a STRP use has been revoked, no new Zoning Permit and/or Business License for a STRP use shall be issued to the applicant for the same property for a period of one year from the date of revocation. Upon expiration of the revocation period, a new Zoning Permit application for a STRP use must be submitted in accordance with this Article.
-

ADD-ONS

The document(s) herein were provided to Council for information and/or discussion after release of the official agenda and backup items.

Topic: Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District - 2018 Annual Report

Date Submitted: December 17, 2018

Submitted By: Denise Parsick

Venue: Natural Resources Committee

Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District 2018 Annual Report

*Celebrating 75 years of Serving Beaufort County
Mission*

“To help people conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment by promoting wise land use practices,



environmental education,



and technical assistance”



Board of Commissioners:

Alan A. Ulmer, Jr., Chair
Claude McLeod, Vice Chair
Denise Parsick, Sec/Treasurer
Luke Inabinett, Member
Don Sanders, Member
Art Holland, Associate
Carol Murphy, Associate
Howard Heckrotte, Associate

We have enjoyed our first full year at Crystal Lake Park. We have had many visitors stopping by for business, meetings, and to see the beautiful passive park. Come by to visit and check out the amazing wildlife! We're here 9am—2 pm, Tuesday—Saturday



District Staff Members:

Shelby Berry, District Manager
Pam Floyd, Education Coordinator
Debby Way, Education Specialist
Cindy Jani, Education Specialist
Taylor Mahala, Education Specialist
Phyllis Atkins, Community Health, Safety, & Trails

The Conservation Partnership includes:

USDA-NRCS, Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Brandon King, District Conservationist

SC Dep. of Natural Resources, Land Conservation Division:

Chris Workman, Program Coordinator for Conservation Districts
Marc Cribb, Program Director, part time

Professional Memberships:

SCACD—SC Association of Conservation Districts
NACD— National Association of Conservation Districts
SCCDEA—SC Conservation District Employees Association

Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District 124 Lady's Island Dr. Beaufort SC 29907
Mailing PO Box 70, Port Royal, SC 29935 Tel: 843-255-7306
Email: bswcd@islc.net www.beaufortconservationdistrict.org

Topic: Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District / 2018 Annual Report

Date Submitted: December 17, 2018

Submitted By: Denise Parsick

Venue: Natural Resources Committee



Natural Resources Conservation Service

On the Ground Conservation Practices in Beaufort County

NRCS and Beaufort Conservation District provided technical support to agricultural landowners in Beaufort County, approving \$271,889 and paying \$64,160 in cost share. EQIP, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, encourages Best Management Practices (BMP's) that help keep our water clean and make the land more sustainable by :

- Reducing sedimentation into nearby waters
- Offering protection for threatened and endangered species
- Fighting invasive species
- Keeping livestock out of area waters

Priority questions for cost share are discussed and approved by the Local Work Group, annually. The following BMP's were installed voluntarily by landowners through EQIP Cost share.

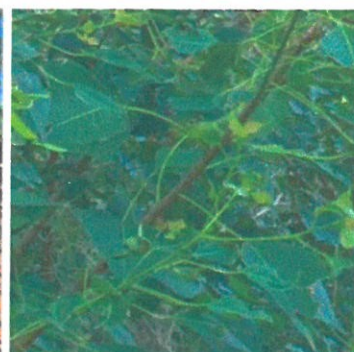
LONG LEAF PINE INITIATIVE

Provides Wildlife Habitats for threatened & endangered Species, like the gopher tortoise



INVASIVE SPECIES ERADICATION

Invasive species like Chinese Tallow choke out crops & native species that support wildlife



MICRO IRRIGATION

Conserves water, saves energy & prevents nutrient run off

TREE PLANTING

Prepare Land to Plant Loblolly Pine

SEASONAL HIGH TUNNEL

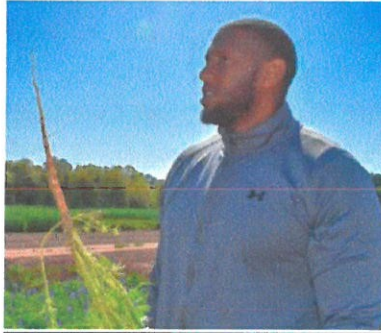
Extends the Growing Season



USDA-NRCS Field Office—Serving Beaufort & Jasper Counties—Brandon King, District Conservationist
7554 W. Main Street, Room 128 Mailing: PO Box 190 Ridgeland, SC 29936
Phone 843-726-8148 Fax 843-726-5763

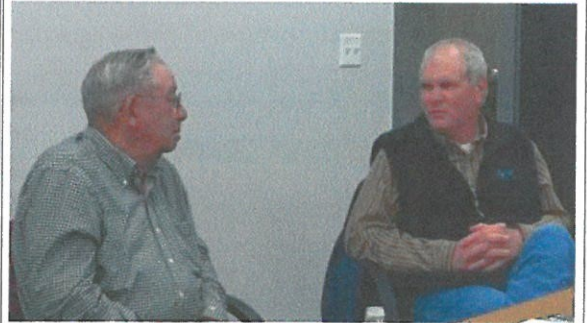
NRCS & SCDNR Activities

We are delighted to announce that a **new USDA-NRCS District Conservationist, Brandon King has been hired!** Mr. King grew up in Whitakers, NC near Rocky Mount and attended North Carolina A & T State University. He previously worked with NRCS in Kentucky, Missouri and South Georgia. Now he is the District Conservationist for Beaufort & Jasper Counties & with offices at the Ridgeland USDA Service Center. He is enjoying learning about the Lowcountry and we enjoy his youth & enthusiasm. Help us welcome Brandon King!



Brandon King, new NRCS District Conservationist, examines a cover crop.

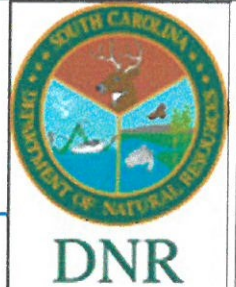
Many , many thanks to Acting District Conservationist, **Fred Tritapoe.** Mr. Tritapoe is the District Conservationist for Colleton County with headquarters at the Walterboro NRCS Service Center. He worked hard to cover his county along with Beaufort and Jasper Counties. We enjoyed leaning from him and appreciated his expertise and enjoyed his presence!



Commissioner Luke Inabinett, L, and District Conservationist, Fred Tritapoe, at a board meeting.

SC Department of Natural Resources

Beaufort SWCD continues its strong partnership with the SC Department of Natural Resources. We work together with statewide activities & education events, SWCD laws & procedures, and staff training. DNR publications, fishing and hunting information and handouts are available at our office. Further information can be viewed at <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/>. **SCDNR ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR)** continues to provide support to Beaufort County. The ACE Basin NERR scientists and staff provide education and volunteer opportunities to area students and adults. We really appreciate our local DNR experts! <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/>



Nick Wallover, SCDNR, shows students how oil on bird feathers can hurt birds and their flight.



Two New Part Time Educators on Staff

Cynthia Jani joined Beaufort SWCD in November 2017. Before taking a break from teaching to stay home with her children, Cynthia taught middle school science for over 6 years in Colleton, Beaufort and Greenville counties. She has also worked with SCDHEC-EQC and SCDNR and was an aquaculture volunteer with the Peace Corps in Cameroon, Africa. She has her B.S. in Biology from the College of Charleston and a Master of Zoology from North Carolina State University. Cynthia lives in Beaufort with her husband, Dan, and two young boys. She enjoys traveling, camping and planning adventures with her family.



Taylor Mahala got her start in environmental education in Palm Springs, California at the Living Desert Zoo. She led tours, worked on special events with children, and took care of animals. She especially enjoyed taking care of reptiles where she developed her love of snakes. She likes to bring Checkers to school and now has recently adopted two snakes in her home collection. Taylor has worked at animal shelters and at her home church, Praise Assembly, where her husband, Alex also works as a youth pastor.



Please help us welcome both Cindy & Taylor to our staff!

Conservation & Education Outreach

Education: This past year Beaufort SWCD presented **263** classroom, camp, & festival outreach programs reaching over **6,042** students and adults.

Festivals: Beaufort SWCD planned and presented Earth Day at the Port Royal Farmers Market. District staff works on the Kidfest Leadership planning committee as well as setting up an outreach booth and supplying volunteer staff to help with the hospitality booth and trash collection. Staff and educators also presented at the Soft Shell Crab Festival, Birthday for the Birds, and the Shelter Cove/Broad Creek Clean Water Festival & Litter Cleanup.

Eco Camp XXIX: Campers learned about endangered, threatened, and extinct species. With a focus on locally endangered species, campers explored topics ranging from endangered plant species to marine mammals. Guest speakers emphasized the conservation of these species and how campers could help. The finale' was held at Hunting Island State Park learning about Loggerhead Sea Turtles.



Eco Camp XXIX Going, Going, Gone...focusing on endangered, threatened and extinct animals.

Right: Megan Stegmeir with Hunting Island State Park shows a juvenile alligator.

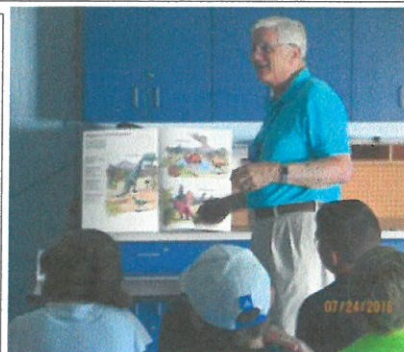


Below: Pam Floyd emphasizes the importance of pollinators to our food crops.



Middle: An "extinct" T-Rex makes a rare appearance!

Right: George Rump teaches about dinosaurs.



Middle: A "Queen bee" rules the hive.

Right: .Students do Project Wild "Hazardous Links" activity while learning about availability of foods for certain species.



Cynthia Jani helps campers make leaf "fossils".



Above, right: Hunting Island State Park staff lead campers in learning about loggerhead sea turtles. Above, middle: Campers learn and demonstrate how to inventory a sea turtle nest.



Water Quality & Conservation Partnerships

Together for Beaufort Water Quality Coalition: As a member of the Beaufort County Human Services Alliance, Beaufort SWCD supports *Together for Beaufort* by leading the T4B Water Quality Coalition. Beaufort SWCD continues to strengthen this coalition that consists of agencies and organizations involved in promoting, educating, & enforcing clean water in Beaufort County. This year we combined our meetings with **Lowcountry Stormwater Partners** since there are so many members belonging to both groups. Each meeting has a special presentation on a relevant topic.



Green Steps Schools: Our staff continues to mentor Whale Branch & Port Royal Elementary Schools in the Green Steps Schools programs. The program encourages students to participate in environmental science activities, to learn about conservation practices, as well as promoting team building and qualifying their school for project grants from the state.

Check out programs and school websites at <http://greenstepschools.com/>

Left, Whale Branch Elementary School works on their recycling project.

Other Education News: This past year Beaufort SWCD received a **Lowcountry RC&D Youth Education Grant** to provide 40 conservation programs that served approximately 800+ youth at schools and other special programs. Educators have been partnering with the Outside Foundation to present the **Enviroscape for Kids in Kayaks** for Bluffton & Hilton Head Island 7th graders.



This two part programs is half day in the water and half day on land doing environmental programs.

The **H.E. McCracken Memorial Scholarship** was established in honor of the late Emmitt McCracken in 1984 to benefit Clemson University students from Beaufort enrolled in Agriculture, Natural Resources or Biology studies.

Mail donations to:
Clemson University Foundation
P.O. Box 1889
Clemson, SC 29633
Include Reference # 539,
McCracken Scholarship Fund



Above, Kids in Kayaks

Left, Board of commissioners and staff at board meeting this past year.

Our Conservation Partnership Services are Available to All Citizens of Beaufort County

Technical Support to land owners, producers and government entities on BMPs through USDA-NRCS.

Educational Support and outreach programs to teachers, students, scouts, churches, camps & civic groups.

Coordinate partnerships with other agencies on variety of projects, programs, and festival outreach events.

Technical support for creation of trails, greenways, blueways, and outdoor learning centers.

Library of historic aerial photography from 1955, soil surveys, topography, and other conservation maps.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS WHO PROVIDE FUNDING, IN-KIND SERVICES, MATERIALS & OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT:

ACE Basin NERR

Beaufort County Schools

Lowcountry Institute

Beaufort County Clemson Extension

Coastal Conservation League

Lowcountry Stormwater Partners

Beaufort County Farm Bureau Women's Committee

SC Sea Grant Consortium

Ms. Lorraine Robertson

Port Royal Sound Foundation

St. Peter's Catholic School

Friends of Hunting Island

Town of Port Royal

Lowcountry RC & D

Beaufort Kayak Tours

Dr. Al Segar

Dr. Tom Ogle

Mr. John O'Connell

BJWSA

Port Royal Farmers Market

Beaufort SWCD Affiliate Member Application

Supporting — \$35.00 Sustaining—\$50.00 Patron —\$100.00 Associate—\$100 +

Circle Level of support Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks Payable to: "Beaufort Conservation District"

Mail to: PO Box 70 Port Royal, SC 29935

Call : 843-255-7306 or Email: bswcd@islc.net

www.beaufortconservationdistrict.org



Name & or Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Thank you for your support!

Please be an Affiliate Today & Help Educate Beaufort County about Conservation of our Natural Resources!
Donations directly fund local Environmental Science education programs for our area Students!

Affiliate Members

Beaufort County School District
WH McLeod & Sons, Inc.
Lowcountry RC & D
Unitarian Universal Fellowship of Beaufort

Ulmer Brothers, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. William Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Berry
Beaufort County Farm Bureau Women's Committee

Location: Crystal Lake Park, 124 Ladys Island Dr. Beaufort SC 29907

Come see us! New Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm or call for an appointment.

Beaufort Soil & Water Conservation District
Location: Crystal Lake Park, 124 Ladys Island Dr.
Beaufort SC 29907
Mailing: PO Box 70
Port Royal, SC 29935





Beaufort Blueways

PADDLING TRAILS

BEAUFORT/PORT ROYAL TRAIL

This unique self-guided Blueways trail follows the Beaufort River between the historic towns of Beaufort and Port Royal, SC.

This is a 6.3 mile one way or 12.6 mile round trip trail. Highlights include the Town of Port Royal, the SC Heritage Trust Site of Fort Frederick, and the National Historic Landmark City of Beaufort.



For further information including GPS waypoints, interpretive information, and tips for paddling this trail, see

www.beaufortblueways.info or the signage at the two points of entry: Lady's Island Public Landing (Beaufort) or the Sands Public Landing (Port Royal).

For equipment rental, consult local outfitters.