

Berkeley Soil & Water Conservation District

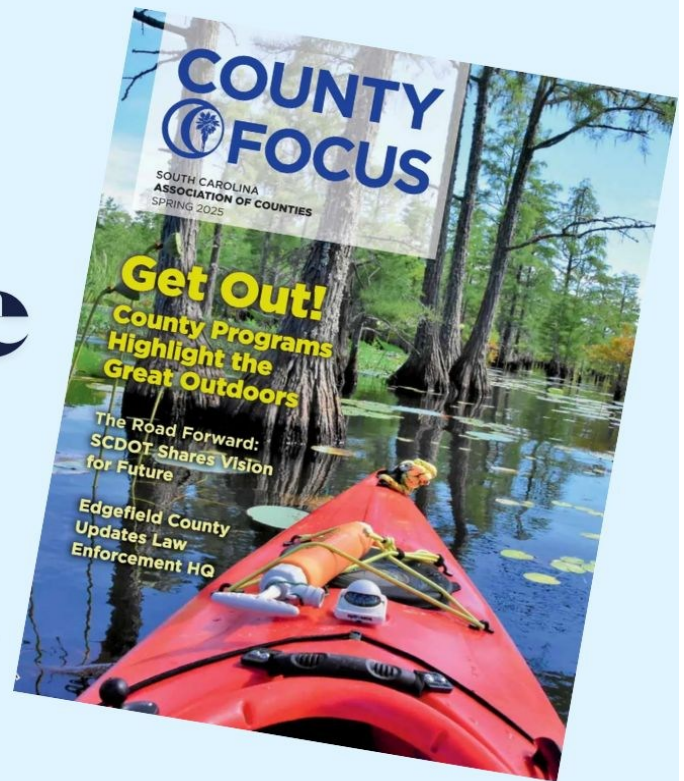
Summer 2025



**Get Out! County Programs Help Residents,
Visitors Explore Great Outdoors**

Berkeley Outdoor Life

Featured in the
**South Carolina
Association of
Counties**

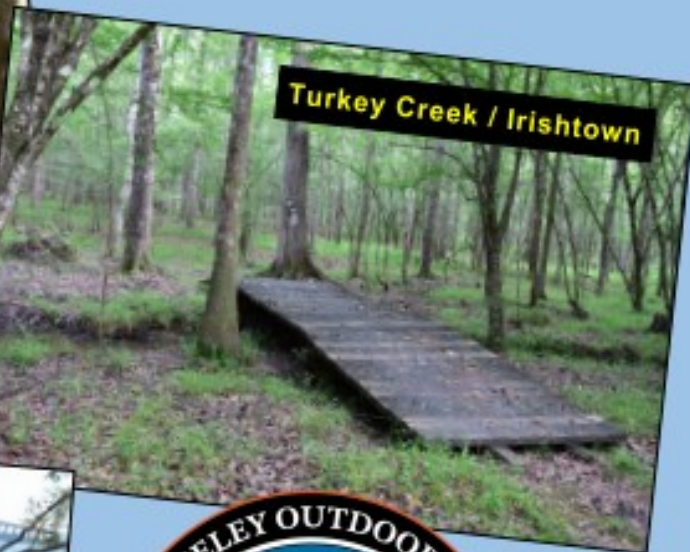


Spring 2025 magazine!



**Scan to
read the
article!**





It's Summer! It's HOT! But we have some COOL(er) Berkeley Outdoor Life Adventures to get you outside!

Berkeley Blueways # 16 – **Upper Wadboo Creek** is a paddler-favorite and nearly all under shaded canopy in this historical creek. These are the same waters that Francis Marion ("The Swamp Fox") traversed 250 years ago. The water is always refreshing, especially in the summer! And it's shallow enough in the upper creek that you can get out and wade. Pro Tip: launch from Rembert C. Dennis Landing right outside of Moncks Corner and paddle up the creek (northeast) to quickly reach this stunning, shaded, narrow swamp.

Berkeley Walkway # 20 – **Turkey Creek / Irishtown** is located deep in the Francis Marion National Forest. This easy walk traverses a dark, lush, green valley with a swamp, picturesque cypress knees and mysterious sites around every corner. It's 100% tree covered and always 5 – 8 degrees cooler feeling than the typical heat indexes of our summers. Pro Tip: slow down, be quiet and look around; this area is home to barred owls, deer and prothonotary warblers!

Berkeley Bikeway # 1 – **Tour de Daniel Island** is a family-favorite, multi-surface path that traverses this beautiful island's east side. Much of this easy-going path is under tropical looking tree cover, you're within a few feet of the Wando River, so there's nearly always a refreshing breeze. Pro Tip: there's lots to see and fun adventure on this bike ride; visit several parks, a treehouse, the waterfront and an historic cemetery.

www.BerkeleyOutdoorLife.com

2025 Scholarship Recipients

BERKELEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AWARDS TWO STUDENTS \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS



Khamiih Alameda

College:

University of
South Carolina
Beaufort

School: Cane Bay High School

Parents: Shreka Collins

Planned Course of Study:

Biology with a focus on Coastal
Ecology and Conservation

Khamiih aspires to collaborate
with organizations such as the
Coastal Conservation League
and the South Carolina Sea Grant
Consortium in her future career.

"Pursuing a career in conservation
and natural resource management
has been an aspiration of mine since
the start of my high school education.
Since job shadowing with South
Carolina DNR, I have gathered diverse
insights through various in-field
opportunities.

Allison Gard



College:

Clemson
University

School: Cane Bay High School

Parents: Mikel and Katherine Gard

Planned Course of Study:

Biosystems Engineering

Allison aspires to work with
Darling Ingredients to gain
knowledge and experience
toward making changes everyday
materials to improve
environmental sustainability.

"If I could change one thing in the world, it
would be the amount of food waste in
our landfills. From within our homes,
food waste often ends up in landfills
where the waste rots and produces
methane, which is a harmful greenhouse
gas that traps heat within our
atmosphere, accelerating global
warming"

High Tunnels Provide More Locally Grown Fresh Fruits, Veggies

It's hard to beat produce grown in the lowcountry. It's often fresher and tastier, uses less energy for transport, and helps farmers in your community. But the off-season presents a big challenge for farmers who grow fruits and vegetables and for consumers who want to find local produce throughout the year.

When farmers can lengthen the growing season, even by several weeks, their options change. That's why the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service promotes seasonal high tunnel as such a powerful tool. High tunnels are plastic-wrapped, metal-framed structures that are fairly easy and inexpensive to build. They are designed to extend the growing season into the colder months, helping to increase the availability of local produce, keep plants at a steady temperature and even conserve water and energy.

High tunnels are similar to greenhouses, except they are considered "passively heated." That means they do not require electricity to heat – only sunlight. The plastic on the frame actually provides enough insulation to add up to 12 extra weeks to the growing season, depending on location. The inside of a high tunnel boasts its own microclimate, often producing crops of higher quality and quantity than those in traditional farm fields. High tunnels are also different than greenhouses in that the plants are actually in the ground, not in pots or on tables. You can think of it as a plastic covering over a field.

High tunnels can cut costs for the producer by conserving water and requiring fewer inputs, like fertilizers or pesticides. In high tunnels, these inputs are often applied through tubes that run along the base of the plants, allowing water and fertilizer to be delivered directly above the soil. Outside of high tunnels, these inputs are often dispersed on a larger scale and require more to ensure the plants receive an adequate amount.

NRCS helps farmers build high tunnels, providing technical expertise and funding. Local and regional markets often provide farmers with a higher share of the food dollar, and money spent at a local business often continues to circulate within community, creating a multiplier effect and providing greater economic benefits to the area.

Managed Forests Yield the Best Benefits

A tract of forestland has great potential, but it must be managed well to harness its full benefits. If your woodlands have grown unproductive or overcrowded, consider some simple management techniques like an occasional cutting or thinning to improve them. Improvements to forests are easy – and the best part is, trees typically respond quickly to management techniques.

Thinning is often performed when a forest is overstocked with trees. Cutting the excess trees allows the remaining trees and understory plants to prosper from more sun, water and space. Depending on local markets and the size of the trees, it may be possible to remove and sell the thinned trees to offset the cost of the operation.

Harvest cuttings are used to remove and market logs for profit. Depending on the type of forest you own and your objectives for it, you may want to consider periodic intermediate cuttings to remove some trees of marketable size. Final harvest cutting occurs when the bulk of trees in a stand are removed and sold. After cutting, make sure the land is replanted or has existing younger trees to continue the regeneration of the forest.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service helps private landowners make their forests healthier through conservation activities, often called small woodlot improvement. In addition to these management techniques, NRCS helps landowners with other forest-related practices, such as using prescribed burning, installing fire lanes and establishing native grasses. When land is managed well, it not only helps you, the landowner, but spurs other environmental benefits as well.

For more information, contact the Charleston/Berkeley USDA Service Center at 843-727-4160 or visit nrcs.usda.gov.



RICH HISTORY.
BRIGHT FUTURE.
One Berkeley

Shop Local IN BERKELEY COUNTY!

BERKELEY COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS

GOOSE CREEK:
Saturdays 9:00am - 1:00pm
519 N. Goose Creek Blvd.

ST. STEPHEN:
Wednesdays 3:00pm - 7:00pm
113 Ravenel St.

MONCK'S CORNER:
Thursdays 3:00pm - 7:00pm
418 East Main St.

DANIEL ISLAND:
Fridays 11:00am - 4:00pm
200 Seven Farm Dr.

CARNES CROSS ROADS
Every Fourth Friday 5:00pm - 8:00pm
513 Wodin Place

BONNEAU BEACH
Last Tuesday 4:00pm - 7:00pm
204 Butter Rd.

SUMMERVILLE
Saturdays 8:00am - 1:00pm
218 South Main St.

See You There!

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!
Explore Berkeley County, SC



Berkeleybees

A local group for anyone interested in beekeeping!

All ages and experience levels welcome!
Meetings held 1st Monday of Each Month, 6 pm

The Nesbitt House, 1003 US Hwy 52, Moncks Corner, SC



To learn more about Berkeley County, visit
www.ExploreBerkeleyCounty.com

To learn more about Berkeley Soil and Water, visit
www.berkeleysoilandwater.com

Summer Newsletter Fun

A	W	A	D	B	O	O	C	R	E	E	K	C	E	B
M	A	E	T	H	T	R	A	E	R	R	D	O	T	T
R	A	C	C	E	Y	M	Y	R	W	E	P	U	U	R
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countyfocus
usda
walkways
earthteam

berkeleybees
scholarship
berkeley
yardart

summertime
farmersmarket
wadboocreek
recycle

nracs
blueways
turkeycreek

EARTH TEAM VOLUNTEERS SHINE IN THE COMMUNITY



***Bushy Park Boat
Landing
Monthly Litter
Cleanup***



***Old Santee Canal Park
and
Cypress Gardens
Festivals***



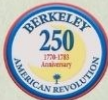
***To become an Earth Team Volunteer,
Contact Courtney Arvai
843-719-4146 or info@berkeleysoilandwater.com***

THE BERKELEY COUNTY MUSEUM PRESENTS

Colonial Day 2025

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
OLD SANTEE CANAL PARK,
MONCK'S CORNER
9AM TO 3PM
\$10/PERSON
\$5/STUDENT WITH ID
6 AND UNDER FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
WWW.TINYURL.COM/COLONIALDAY2025



PLASTIC FREE JULY

Plastic Free July is a global movement that encourages people to reduce single-use plastic consumption throughout the month of July.

How To Participate

- Avoid the top 4 single-use plastics:
 - Plastic bags
 - Water bottles
 - Coffee cups
 - Plastic straws
- Commit to plastic-free grocery shopping
- Organize or attend local cleanups



Summer 2025 Annual Yard Art Show Cypress Gardens

INFO: Courtney Arvai 843-719-4146



EARTH TEAM ENJOYS
HISTORY AND
EDUCATION
ADVENTURE
TO CHARLESTOWNE
LANDING



Recycling Plastic in Berkeley County: Identifying What, Where, and How To Reduce Waste and Help Our Environment

Plastics! No question, considerable headaches for many. Recycling plastic plays a vital role in our environmental conservation efforts, aiming to preserve resources, and protect the ecosystem. Given the diverse array of plastic materials in circulation, determining the appropriate disposal methods can pose challenges. However, residents have access to various avenues for plastic recycling across the state, ranging from local curbside collection programs to designated recycling facilities. By adhering to proper recycling protocols, individuals contribute to reducing plastic waste in landfills and marine environments, thereby fostering a positive impact on our county, and the planet. This guide offers insights into plastic recycling, covering recyclable plastic types, recycling locations, and strategies for managing challenging plastics.

There are numerous options available for recycling plastic in South Carolina, ranging from local curbside pickup programs to designated recycling centers. By adhering to proper recycling guidelines, individuals can help minimize the amount of plastic waste that ends up in landfills and oceans, thereby making a positive impact on the environment.

Opting for recycling whenever feasible is the most effective approach to manage plastic disposal. This practice significantly diminishes the accumulation of plastic waste in landfills. When recycling isn't viable, individuals can explore alternative means to reuse plastic items. For instance, plastic containers serve well for storage purposes, while plastic bags can be repurposed for shopping trips.

The optimal approach for handling plastic is to prioritize recycling whenever feasible. This aids in curtailing the volume of plastic waste occupying landfills. In instances where recycling isn't an option, individuals can seek out alternative methods to repurpose plastic items. For instance, plastic containers prove useful for storing various items, while plastic bags can be reused for shopping purposes.

Where can I “return” the can and bottles? In South Carolina, a beverage container law or bottle bill does not allow for a refund of the container's value.

In South Carolina, you can recycle, return, and earn money by participating in the state's Return and Earn program. Drinks can be brought in a variety of containers, including cans, beer and mixer bottles, cartons, juice boxes, and poppers. You can make money by recycling and doing good for the environment at the same time. So, does South Carolina recycle cans? Absolutely! Residents of South Carolina can recycle at home, school, work, and wherever they go thanks to the state's extensive recycling program. Recycling cans and other acceptable materials can be an effective way to reduce waste and preserve the environment.

Recycling is becoming more prevalent in South Carolina and Berkeley County, which has a variety of resources available to businesses and residents. Recycling drop-off centers are open at each of South Carolina's state parks and four of the state's largest airports, and eighty-five curbside recycling programs are available. Paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and containers, aluminum, steel, and glass can all be recycled at these locations. Businesses have access to Convenience Centers, where they can drop off household recyclables. This service is only available to businesses and is not available to individuals. The South Carolina government's commitment to being environmentally conscious is commendable, and it has never been easier to make a difference. There's no excuse not to recycle when there's so much to recycle.

What Plastic Cannot Be Recycled? Non-recyclable plastics include bioplastics, composite plastics, plastic-coated wrapping paper, and polycarbonate. Cello board packaging and blister packaging are just a few examples of non-recyclable plastics.

Berkeley County, SC, has many convenience centers for residents to recycle. These centers are staffed and handle sorting of recyclables from trash. Residents do not need to separate recyclables from their trash, as RePower South handles all the sorting. The new recycling facility in Berkeley County automatically separates recyclable material from the trash, and trash that cannot be recycled is taken to the county landfill.

For all recycling information, contact: Berkeley County Recycling Coordinator Sarah McCarthy Smith, at 843-719-2383, at physical and mailing Address: 212 Oakley Plantation Drive, Moncks Corner, SC 29461.

By: Keith Gourdin, Commissioner

2025 Affiliate Appreciation Banquet



**BERKELEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AWARDS
CHRIS VOLF
THE H.H. HARVEY AWARD**



2025 AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Golden Ambassador Membership

Kevin & Cindy - Alford, Beyond Wealth LLC	Ken & Barbara Ford
Michelle Cooper – Dial-Murray Funeral Home	Barry & Beezie Jurs
Scott & Heather Lynch – Blaze LLC	Pat & Lori McFadden
Kathy Rozier	Santee Cooper
John & Pamela Tiencken, Esq.	

Ambassador Membership

Terry & Susan Blackwell	Henry & Billye Brown - Pine Hope LLC
Lynn Curtis – Sanders Bros. Const. Co.	Mark & Diane Edwins
Keith Gourdin	Tom & Carolyn Hamilton
Lori Harrison – South State Bank	Carroll Harvey
Cliff Martin	Ben & Dorothy Miller
Kyle & Michelle Russell – Russell Funeral Chapel	Matt Thompson – O.L. Thompson Construction Company
Andrea West	
Troy Winn, Mt. Holly Veterinarian Clinic	

Conservationist Membership

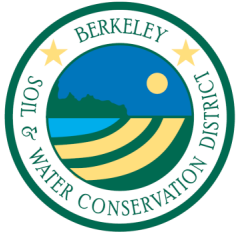
Salley Dupree	Lee & Lori Glover
Walter & Cathy Earley – Hickory Bluff Farm	Todd & Marietta Hicks
William & Neva Peagler, Esq.	Jim & Tammy Rowan, II
C.J. Singletary - Farmers & Merchants Bank	Carolyn Umphlett

Sustaining Membership

Roseann Bishop	Ed & Heather Glover
Edwin & Donna Harvey	Janet Brown Jurosko
Phillip Obie, Sr.	Eugene & Lynette Oliver
Jim & Nancy Rowan	Pamela Williams & Jary Hulst, Esqs.

Patron Membership

Henrietta Acton	Adah Brewer
David & Sarah Brown	Linda Chandler
Chab & Debbie Clarke	Charlotte Crosby
Joseph Russell & Mary Cross, Jr.	Robert & Carol DeHay
Margaret Gourdin	Palmer & Jackie Gourdin
Danielle Harvey	David & Mary Jane Hayes
Jay Jackson, Barony Financial Group	Gene Kodama
Joseph McCants Family, LLC	Drew McClam
Glenn McConnell	Matt Murphy – Phantom Outdoors
Duncan Newkirk	Sam & Suzi Parker
Francine Reed	Loretta Simmons
Sarah Smith – Keep Berk. Beautiful	Daniel & Keely Tracy
William & Heather Umphlett	Butch & Chris Volf
Gene & Jane Williams	John O. & Melissa Williams
	Wade Wyndham



**223 East Main Street, Ste. B
Moncks Corner, SC 29461**

Summer 2025

Grow with us—there's so much to do in Berkeley County!

YES, I would like to become a supporting Affiliate member of the
Berkeley Soil and Water Conservation District!

2025 Membership (please circle one) *\$500—Golden Ambassador
*\$250—Ambassador *\$200—Conservationist *\$150 Sustaining Member
*\$100—Patron Member *\$50 Student (under 20 y/o) Member

Name/Company Name_____

Email_____ Contact #_____

Mailing Address_____

Mail or bring a check to: 223 E. Main Street, Ste. B, Moncks Corner, SC 29461, Office 843-719-4146

***The BSWCD Board meets monthly, The 4th Tuesday of the month at 11:00 am.
Most meetings are held at Old Santee Canal Park. If you are interested in attending
a meeting, call our office a week prior to the meeting for confirmation on location.***