



**South Carolina Beach Advocates**  
**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: Partnerships to Advance Coastal Resilience**

<https://scbeaches.org/2026-annual-meeting>

Monday, January 26 at 1:00 pm - Wednesday, January 28 at 12:00 pm

[The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa](#)

Two Grasslawn Ave, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

**AGENDA**

**Monday, January 26, 2026**

9:30 SC Beach Advocates Board of Directors meeting

10:00 Registration opens

**Opening Plenary Session**

Session Chair: Phillip Pounds, Chair, SC Beach Advocates, and Mayor, City of Isle of Palms

**Location:** Archer/ Barnwell Ballrooms

1:00 **Welcome to Hilton Head**  
Mayor Alan Perry, Town of Hilton Head Island

**Keynote Address**  
Governor Henry McMaster (recorded remarks)

**South Carolina Coastal Tourism and Beach Nourishment**  
Duane Parrish, Director, S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

**South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR) Update**  
Ben Duncan, Chief Resilience Officer and Agency Head  
Alex Butler, Resilience Planning Director, SCOR

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Charleston District Coastal Update**  
Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, Commander & District Engineer, USACE Charleston District

2:00 **BREAK: REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS**  
Sponsored by Coastal Science & Engineering  
**Location:** Savannah Foyer

**Attendance qualifies for 10 hours of CECs from the SC Planning Education Advisory Committee (SCPEAC)  
and the SC Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors**  
*Tentative Schedule subject to change: Revised January 22, 2026*

Monday, January 26, 2026 (cont.)

### 2026 State Beach Management Updates

Session Chair: Crawford Moore, Vice Chair, S.C. Beach Advocates; Mayor, Edisto Beach

2:20 **S.C. State Beaches & Coastal Management Update**

Christopher Stout, Chief, Bureau of Coastal Management

**2026 Legislative Session Update & Outlook for South Carolina Beaches**

Moderator: Phillip Pounds, Chair, SC Beach Advocates; Mayor, City of Isle of Palms

Senator Tom Davis, District 46

Senator George E. “Chip” Campsen, III, District 43

Senator Stephen L. Goldfinch, District 34

Representative Spencer Wetmore, District 115

Representative Joe Bustos, District 112

Representative Marvin “Mark” Smith, District 99

Representative William G. “Bill” Herbkersman, District 118

3:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

Sponsored by **City of Isle of Palms**

3:50 **Most Pressing Beach Management Challenges for South Carolina Communities**

Moderator: Nicole Elko, Administrator, S.C. Beach Advocates

Panelists: S.C. Beach Advocates Board of Directors

Angela Christian, Administrator, Georgetown County

Shawn Gillen, Assistant Town Manager, Town of Hilton Head

Dana Hamilton, Interim Public Works Director, City of North Myrtle Beach

John Taylor, Planning Director, Town of Kiawah Island

Janet Curry, Director of Public Works, City of Myrtle Beach

Douglas Kerr, Administrator, City of Isle of Palms

Aaron Pope, Administrator, City of Folly Beach

Crawford Moore, Mayor, Town of Edisto Beach

Daniel Newquist, Administrator, Town of Pawleys Island

Rebecca Fanning, Resilience Director, Town of Sullivan’s Island

Blanche Brown, General Manager, DeBordieu Colony Comm. Assn.

5:30 pm

**WELCOME RECEPTION**

Sponsored by **Marinex Construction**

**Location: The Westin Grand Ocean Terrace**



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and the SC Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors

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Tuesday, January 27, 2026



8:00 am      **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**  
Sponsored by ATM, a Geosyntec company  
**Location: Savannah Foyer**

8:20 am

**Coastal Resilience Panel**

Moderator: Daniel Newquist, Director, SC Beach Advocates and Administrator, Town of Pawleys Island

**Building Coastal Resilience in Charleston: Adaptive Infrastructure Solutions for a Changing Climate**

Kaylan Koszela, Director of Resilience, City of Charleston  
Chris Mack, Director of Resilience and Coastal Solutions, JMT

**Sullivan's Island Sea Level Adaptation and Resilience Plan: A Blueprint for Action**

Rebecca Fanning, Director of Resilience, Town of Sullivan's Island  
Kim Morganello, Weston & Sampson

**Pawleys Island's Plan to Improve Long-term Coastal Resiliency**

Daniel Newquist, Town Administrator, Pawleys Island  
Aaron Akin, Seamon Whiteside

**Enhancing Coastal Resilience Through Integrated Transportation Infrastructure Planning in North Carolina**

Kurt Golembesky, Senior Engineering Project Manager, NCDOT  
Crystal Moore, NC Practice Leader, KCI

9:20 am      **COFFEE BREAK**  
Sponsored by **Town of Edisto Beach**

9:40 am

**Coastal Roadways Vulnerability Panel**

Moderator: Janet Curry, Treasurer, SC Beach Advocates, and Director of Public Works, City of Myrtle Beach

**Determining Coastal Roadway Vulnerability in Beaufort County, SC**

Bryan Bauer, Director of Engineering, Beaufort County  
Cameron Weathers, Hydraulics Engineer, HDR

**City of Isle of Palms Waterway Boulevard Flood Mitigation Project - Flood Mitigation Hidden in Plain Sight**

Douglas Kerr, City Administrator, Isle of Palms  
Richard Karkowski, Thomas & Hutton

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**From Streets to Shores: Designing a Model for Resilient Stormwater Infrastructure on Folly Beach, SC**

Jenna Stephens, Environmental Planner, City of Folly Beach  
Kim Morganello and Christopher Pyman, Weston & Sampson

**Edisto Beach Town-Wide Stormwater Planning Strategy**

Crawford Moore, Mayor, Town of Edisto Beach  
Michael Horton, Senior Engineer, Davis & Floyd

10:40 am      **COFFEE BREAK**  
Sponsored by **Manson Construction**

11:00 am  
**Evolution of Beach Preservation**  
Session Chair: Angela Christian, Director, SC Beach Advocates and Administrator, Georgetown County

**Local Government Emergency Operations Dashboard**

Jessica Boynton, Coastal Services Division Director, SCDES, Bureau of Coastal Management

**Beach Management Strategies with Shifting Baselines**

Patrick Barrineau, Vice President, Coastal Science & Engineering  
Steven Traynum, President, Coastal Science & Engineering

**A 40 Year History of Beach Preservation on Hilton Head Island**

Jeff Netzing, Town of Hilton Head  
Christopher Creed, Senior Coastal Engineer, Foth | Olsen

12:00 pm      **ANNUAL LUNCHEON**  
Sponsored by **Great Lakes Dredge & Dock**  
**Location: The Westin Grand Ocean Terrace**

**South Carolina Beach Advocates Membership Meeting**  
*2026 Board of Directors Election*

**FIELD TRIP**

Hilton Head's Ongoing Beach Renourishment Project  
Sponsored by **Foth | Olsen**

1:30 pm      Depart from resort lobby for field trip

5:00 pm      **SUNSET RECEPTION**  
**Poseidon, 38 Shelter Cove Lane, Hilton Head Island**  
Sponsored by **Town of Hilton Head Island**

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Wednesday, January 28, 2026



8:00 am      **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**  
Sponsored by **Norfolk Dredging Company**  
**Location: Savannah Foyer**

8:20 am  
**Community Monitoring Panel**  
Moderator: Pat O’Neil, Director, South Carolina Beach Advocates, Mayor, Sullivan’s Island

**From Data to Decisions: How SECOORA Supports Coastal Communities and Economies**  
Debra Hernandez, Executive Director, SECOORA

**Coastal Flood Mitigation through Real-Time Monitoring in Palmetto Hall**  
Jeff Netzinger, Engineering & Projects Director, Town of Hilton Head  
James Riddle, Program Director, Woolpert

**Coastal Monitoring and Management with Unmanned Aerial Systems**  
Eric Kencel, GIS Specialist, AECOM

**Strategic Seabed Mapping: Leveraging Advanced Bathymetric and Backscatter Analysis to Secure Sand Resources for Coastal Resilience**  
Gabriela De Oliveira, Hydrographic Production Manager, McKim & Creed

9:20 am      **COFFEE BREAK**  
Sponsored by **SECOORA**

9:40 am  
**Nature-Based Solutions & Cultural Preservation Panel**  
Session Chair: Alan Perry, Director, SC Beach Advocates, and Mayor, Town of Hilton Head

**Rosemont Flood Plan: Community Strength and Climate Adaptation**  
Kaylan Koszela, Director of Resilience, City of Charleston  
Kasey Henneman, Black & Veatch

**Parks With Purpose**  
Scott Harris, Senior Project Manager, Town of Hilton Head Island  
Brian Witmer, Witmer Jones Keefer, Inc.

**Designing for Shoreline Resilience at U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island**  
Benjamin Carswell, University of Georgia Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems  
Heidi Verran, Coastal Engineer, ATM, a Geosyntec Company

**Beyond Rocks and Revetments: Innovative Reef Arch Solutions for Coastal Resilience**  
Chris Bogdan, Shoreline Protection Specialist, Ferguson Waterworks

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10:40 am

**COFFEE BREAK**

Sponsored by City of Folly Beach



11:00 am

**Closing Session**

Session Chair: Blanche Brown, Ex-Officio Director, SC Beach Advocates, and Consultant, DeBordieu Colony Community Association

**The S.C. Grant Consortium – Research Supporting Beach Communities**

Landon Knapp, Assistant Director for Research and Partnerships, S.C. Sea Grant Consortium

**Between Land and Sea: Legal Frontiers for Beachfront Management Panel Discussion**

Moderator: Rob Young, Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines, Western Carolina Univ

Amy Armstrong, Executive Director and General Counsel, SC Environmental Law Project

Mary Shahid, Environmental Attorney, Maynardnexus

**Closing Remarks**

12:00

Adjourn

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