



South Carolina Beach Advocates

12th 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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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, SeamonWhiteside

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 Netzinger, 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, Maynardnexen

Closing Remarks

12:00

Adjourn

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