



SOUTH CAROLINA SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM



February 2018

The South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium is one of 33 Sea Grant college programs and is a state agency that collaborates across South Carolina’s colleges and universities.



South Carolina Sea Grant Living Marine Resources specialist Julie Davis provides technical assistance to oyster growers throughout coastal South Carolina.
Credit: Christopher Katalinas, NOAA Sea Grant

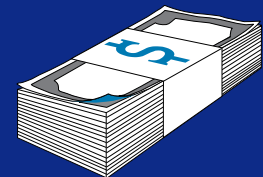
South Carolina Sea Grant partnership supports aquaculture business development

South Carolina Sea Grant’s research and technology transfer efforts are supporting the rapidly emerging oyster farming industry in South Carolina, which has a potential value at harvest reaching \$1 million and potential restaurant retail value estimated at \$4 million. In 2016, South Carolina Sea Grant helped fill the seed orders for oyster farmers across the state, all with seed produced in-state using South Carolina broodstock. A total of 2.6 million seed were sold, with a market value of \$1,092,000.

scseagrant.org

\$1.0 M

Economic benefit



19,000

K-12 students reached

14

Businesses created or sustained



Metrics reported to National Sea Grant Office in June 2017 for work completed February 2016 to January 2017



RESEARCH

EXTENSION

EDUCATION

Conference co-led by South Carolina Sea Grant improves stormwater management practices



An example of a well-managed pond with vegetated buffers on Daniel Island, S.C. Credit: Joey Holleman, S.C. Sea Grant Consortium

In 2016, South Carolina Sea Grant co-organized and co-led a regional conference to extend the latest scientific information on stormwater ponds to public and private pond managers and owners. The conference increased awareness of the function and maintenance needs of stormwater ponds, provided owners with pond management best practices and integrated communities with service providers to assist in inspection and management actions. There are about 9,000 dedicated residential stormwater ponds in South Carolina that play a significant role in watershed function, including flood management, pollution mitigation and improved water quality for coastal communities.

“The counties and municipalities charged with managing stormwater in South Carolina rely on assistance from professionals in other fields and disciplines who investigate these issues and develop new tools. South Carolina Sea Grant’s integrated, coordinated approach is undoubtedly a more effective strategy than each community trying to grapple with these issues individually.”

-David Fuss, Watershed Planner, Stormwater Management, Horry County Government

Developing a Strategy for Sea Level Rise



Charleston, S.C. has seen a 409% increase in the number of nuisance flooding days since the 1960s. In 2016, South Carolina Sea Grant provided assistance to the City of Charleston as it developed a sea level rise strategy that prepares for a sea level rise of 2.5 feet by 2060. A sea level rise of 2.5 feet would have major impacts on residents who already suffer property damage from frequent and severe flooding events.

Beach Sweep/River Sweep Saves Taxpayers \$209,000



In 2016, 4,127 people volunteered to collect over 24 tons of litter along 1,029 miles of South Carolina’s beaches, marshes, and waterways. The amount of volunteer time for the South Carolina Sea Grant and S.C. Department of Natural Resources-coordinated Beach Sweep/River Sweep event resulted in \$209,873 in savings for the state.

Oyster Research Leads to Patent for Anti-Biofouling Coating



South Carolina Sea Grant supported research at Clemson University’s Okeanos Research Lab that revealed the process oysters use to build and repair their shells. This discovery sparked the development of an anti-biofouling coating that could be applied to boats to reduce fuel and maintenance costs caused by biofouling. In 2016, the Sea Grant funded-researchers earned a patent for this coating.