

Berkeley

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Biggest Achievement of 2022



Berkeley SWCD has been working on two signature projects since Spring 2021. Berkeley Outdoor Life was completed earlier this year, and the first two phases of ByGone Berkeley are expected to be completed by January 2023 with additional phases to come later next year. These two platforms continue to lead the Southeast in outdoor recreation and historical opportunities. No other county has this much to offer! Please continue to follow our progress at www.BerkeleyOutdoorLife.com and www.ByGoneBerkeley.com.

Berkeley Outdoor Life: 25 Kayaking Trails (235 miles), 23 Hiking & Walking Trails (185 miles), 20 Bicycling Routes (315 miles), and 35 Places to Camp (20+ are FREE).

ByGone Berkeley: 109 Historical Markers, 32 American Revolution Action Sites, 20 African American History Sites, and Historical Churches.

Other Notable Accomplishment

Through additional state appropriated funds, we were able to partner with B.C. School District, U.S. Forest Service, SC Forestry Commission, Berkeley County, Keep Berkeley Beautiful, B.C. Library System, Old Santee Canal Park, Cypress Gardens, and Clemson Extension to further the education of Berkeley County citizens.

We continue to work with NRCS to help our farmers and citizens of Berkeley County.

Earth Team Volunteers and berkeleybees groups continue to be very active and growing.

Conservation by the Numbers

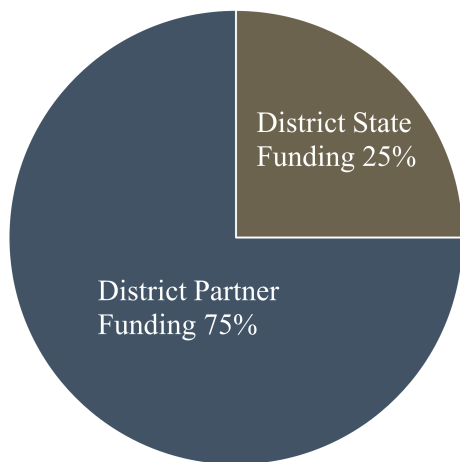
- 302 landowners served with conservation technical assistance to put conservation on the ground
- More than 400 acres in Berkeley County were enrolled in conservation programs
- 26 landowners assisted with new EQIP applications
- 48 landowners enrolled in CSP

2023 District Plans

- Assist with EDUC 695 Graduate Class for teachers - Environmental History of Berkeley County. Begins Jan. 2023 and completes March 2023
- Continue our partnerships to make Berkeley County citizens aware of the beauty and history available through education opportunities
- Partner with Berkeley County Schools to have Kids Who Care 2023

South Carolina Soil and Water Conservation Districts - 2022 Impact

State FY23 Conservation District Funding



For every \$1 of state appropriated funds to Conservation Districts, \$3 on average is leveraged to implement conservation programs in South Carolina.

Conservation Districts assist with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farm Bill Programs which brought more than **\$55 million** to South Carolina's private lands for conservation implementation in federal FY22.

More than 72,000 students were reached by conservation district youth oriented programs such as school gardening, seed libraries, SC Envirothon, Arbor Day and Earth Day events, stormwater education, scholarships, and conservation related contests, etc.

More than 1.3 million adults were educated on conservation topics including Farm Bill Programs, pollinator promotion, stormwater mitigation, invasive species control, prescribed fire, water quality and conservation, habitat restoration, land easements, etc.

More than 44,000 acres statewide were impacted by conservation rental equipment available through conservation districts (no-till drills, prescribed fire equipment, hog traps, etc.).

SC Envirothon State Champions took **17th place** overall at the 2022 international NCF-Envirothon Competition competing against teams from the US, Canada, and China.

Programs involving land easements, habitat restoration, invasive species removal, water conservation, watershed improvement, litter removal, and conservation education are just a handful of the vast conservation topics implemented statewide by Conservation Districts.