



SCDES 2026 Water Summit



AGENDA

May 19, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Registration, Breakfast and Exhibitor Tables

9:00 a.m.

South Carolina's Water Future

SCDES Director Myra Reece

9:20 a.m.

Working Together to Put Our Plan Into Action

Rob Devlin (moderator), Assistant Bureau Chief, SCDES Bureau of Water | Jimmy Bagley, City of Rock Hill

Lindsey Privette, Pee Dee Council of Governments | Brian Lynch, Santee Cooper | Allen Clum, Mount Pleasant Water

10:20 a.m.

Networking Break and Exhibitor Tables

10:45 a.m.

Linking Climate Patterns to Hydrology: Implications for Aquatic Ecosystems

Dr. Matthew Baumann (moderator), Aquatic Science Director SCDES Bureau of Water

Dr. Hope Mizzell, SCDNR State Climatologist | Emily Bores, SCDES Harmful Algal Bloom Program

Ashley Graham, SCDES Aquatic Nuisance Plants Program

11:45 a.m.

Everyone has a Leadership Role in our State's Water Future

Kristy E. Ellenberg and Lisa Brownlee, SCDES

12:00 p.m.

Lunch Buffet

12:30 p.m.

Shared Resources and Shared Responsibilities: Multi-State Coordination of Water Management with SC, NC and GA

John Boyer (moderator), CDM Smith Senior Project Manager | Joe Koon, SCDES Bureau of Water Director of Water Resources

Jeff Lineburger, Duke Energy General Manager of Water Strategy

Jennifer Welte, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Assistant Branch Chief of Watershed Protection Branch

Linwood Peele, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Supervisor of the Water Supply Branch

1:15 p.m.

Networking & Exhibitor Break

1:30 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Ballroom A/B

Connecting Water Quality with Water Quantity

Ballroom C

Sharing Opportunities

1:30 p.m.

Data in Action: Integrated State and Partner Programs

Courtney Kemmer (moderator) Aquatic Resource Monitoring Manager, SCDES Bureau of Water | Dave Chestnut, SCDES Bureau of Water | Courtney Kimmel, Port Royal Sound Foundation

Supporting Water Reuse

Adrienne Wright (moderator), SCDES Bureau of Water Environmental Engineer Tricia Kilgore, Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority | Jestine Deepe, Mount Pleasant Waterworks Director of Regulatory and Environmental Services

2:15 p.m.

Partners in Water Quality Improvements

Shea McCarthy (moderator), SCDES Bureau of Water | Rick Lee, S.C. Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council | Melanie Ruhlman, Save our Saluda

Education and Outreach for Water Resources

Jaclin DuRant (moderator), SCDES Bureau of Water | Lexi Toole, SCDES and S.C. Adopt-a-Stream | Samantha Porzelt, Carolina Clear | Britney Prebis, Charleston Waterkeeper

3:00 p.m.

Reconvening Break & Exhibitor Tables

3:15 p.m.

Investing in our Water Resources with Public-Private Partnerships

Kristy E. Ellenberg (moderator) | Michelle Eddy, RTI | Kyle Cotton, Infra

Brett Butz, SCDES | Alicia Arrigoni, Google | Maurie Lawrence, Milliken

4:10 p.m.

Everyone has a Leadership Role in our State's Water Future: A Call to Action

SCDES Director Myra Reece