



South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium's
South Carolina Coastal Community Initiative - 2004
Municipalities and Counties
Working to Conserve Coastal Resources & Grow in a Sustainable Way
September 2004

To Coastal Communities Interested in Quality Growth,

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the S.C. Coastal Community Initiative (CCI), a collaborative land-use planning and water quality program for local decision makers. CCI is a focused educational program aimed at assisting decision makers in local government in the development and implementation of "quality growth" land management policies and practices. The CCI program is administered by the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium's Extension Program (SCSGEP), which is a joint outreach effort of the Clemson University Extension Service and the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium.

Through CCI, local elected officials, planners and others from your community will learn how local land-use decisions affect water quality and other coastal resources. The CCI program presents a number of economically viable, "quality growth" alternatives to traditional land-use. The objective of the CCI program is to provide information that will assist local decision makers in making land-use decisions that enable the wise use of coastal natural resources for the economic benefit of your community, and conserve those resources for the continued use of future generations. This is the definition of "quality growth" and an important part of the mission of the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium.

Several small planning grants will be made available to eligible cities, towns, or counties located within the coastal zone of South Carolina. Applications will be reviewed and communities selected to receive a planning grant will be required to show a strong commitment to the project, which includes identifying a local coordinator and establishing a local task force. It is important that you talk with the land use decision-makers of your municipality or county to determine their willingness to participate.

Enclosed is a brief and simple application. Please complete it, include an itemized budget, add attachments if necessary, and return it to me (address below) no later than Friday, October 22, 2004.

Feel free to contact me at (843) 727-2078 or by e-mail at april.turner@scseagrant.org, if you have any questions or need further information. I look forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,

April Turner, Coastal Communities Specialist
S.C. Sea Grant Extension Program

Enclosures

The S.C. Sea Grant Consortium is committed to maximizing the economic, social, and environmental potential of the state's coastal and marine resources. Created by the S.C. General Assembly, the Consortium undertakes a diverse range of initiatives to improve understanding of the regions coastal resources and our ability to manage them for long-term benefit.

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Part A: Background Information & Guidelines

With the vast majority of land use decisions made at the local level, community officials are instrumental in influencing and directing development and conservation efforts.

The South Carolina Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (SC NEMO) program, initiated in 1998 to assist local communities, is an education program targeted towards local decision-makers and addresses the links between land use and natural resource protection. The program was designed to assist local communities in the development and implementation of land management policies and practices to reduce polluted stormwater runoff and protect local natural resources. We have expanded the SC NEMO program beyond water quality to include Quality Growth principles under a new S.C. Sea Grant Extension Program (SCSGEP), *SC Coastal Community Initiative*, to help foster sustainable land use planning and management.

The S.C. Coastal Community Initiative will offer programs to local communities that wish to take a comprehensive approach to land use planning and resource management. Such a comprehensive approach includes: **FIRST**, knowing what resources a community has, why it is important to manage those resources, and what tools are available; **SECOND**, incorporating this knowledge into planning documents (e.g., comprehensive land use plans); and **THIRD**, giving “teeth” to planning efforts via land use ordinances. The SCSGEP’s commitment to this comprehensive approach drives our 2004 Community Initiative.

Application Criteria:

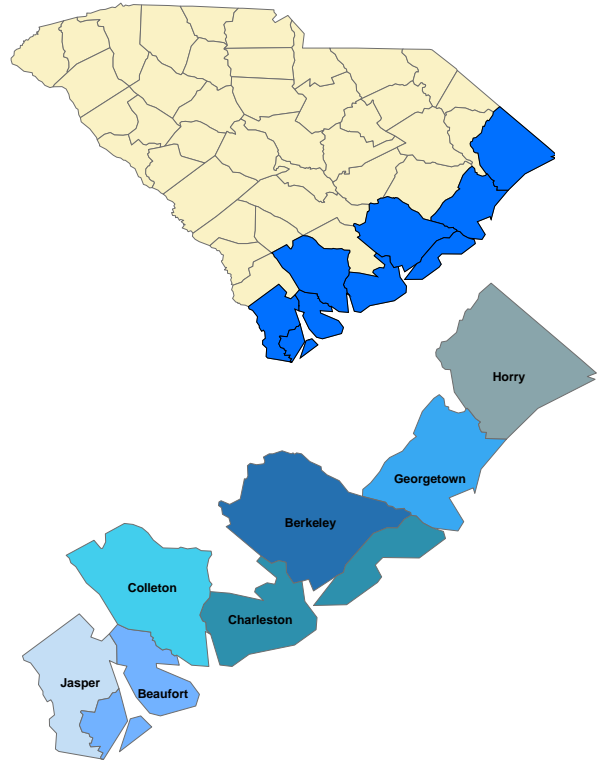
1. Commitment to work with SCSGEP to understand Quality Growth principles.
2. Commitment to seriously consider possibilities for incorporating one or more of these principles in your land use plans, ordinances, and/or regulations. For example, communities might:
 - Revise the natural resource or land use sections of your local comprehensive plan
 - Develop plans for local public projects that incorporate innovative design strategies or alternative best management practices
 - Develop or update stormwater management ordinances
 - Develop or update plans or ordinances addressing open space protection for natural resources and cultural/historical resources
3. Eligible projects must address issues related to one or more of the following categories:
 - Open Space Preservation
 - Water Quality Management
 - Alternative Transportation
 - Sustainable Community Planning and Design
 - Zoning Ordinances and Regulations
4. Commitment of staff, time, and resources to individual projects, the identification of a local coordinator, and the establishment of a local Quality Growth Task Force (See Part B: Community Application).

PLEASE NOTE: The SCSGEP staff *will NOT* prepare plans, conduct natural resource inventories, or write regulations. The SCSGEP staff *will* provide educational presentations and workshops, publications, and internet resources to guide participants through a review of pertinent planning documents and regulations. Other assistance may be provided based upon the uniqueness of the project.

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Part B: Community Application

1. Please prepare and submit a cover letter (two pages maximum) that provides the following information:
 - a. Title of Proposed Project
 - b. Name of contact person with address, phone, and email address
 - c. Background and Justification – include a description of the project and its need in your community; demographic information to support the project; approach to be taken to accomplish the project; and timeline to completing the effort.
 - d. Identify your plans to establish a Quality Growth Task Force
 - e. Indicate your willingness to work with SCSGEP staff to understand Quality Growth principles and to seriously consider possibilities for incorporating one or more of these principles in your land use plans, ordinances, and/or regulations.
 - f. Describe current or upcoming planning and/or regulatory activities that will benefit from your proposed project.



2. The following individuals have agreed to serve on a Quality Growth Task Force and will commit time to work with the SCSGEP staff. The commission and public officials identified are minimum requirements; broader representation is encouraged, particularly from those involved in economic development and conservation. Please identify a contact person (chairperson) with an asterisk (*). Others may be included, as the community, in conjunction with the SCSGEP staff, deems necessary.

NAME	AFFILIATION	E-MAIL	PHONE
	Planning Staff		
	Land Use Commission		
	Elected Official		

3. Amount requested (up to \$2,500) \$ _____

Name (print)

Job Title

Signature

Date

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Part C: Evaluation Process

1. Evaluation of proposals will be based on:
 - Acceptance of criteria, including commitment of resources (staff, time, other)
 - Quality of proposed project
 - Statement of need (cover letter)

2. Proposals will be selected by an advisory panel, which will include representatives from:
 - S.C. Sea Grant Consortium
 - State Natural Resource Agencies
 - S.C. Sea Grant Consortium Member Institutions

Part D: Application Submission

Please send your cover letter, completed and signed Community Application Form and detailed budget to:

April Turner, Coastal Communities Specialist
S.C. Sea Grant Extension Program
287 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone: (843) 727-2078
E-mail: april.turner@scseagrant.org

***Listed below are some suggested areas of focus that qualify under the eligible categories described in Application Criteria #3 in Part A: Background Information & Guidelines :

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ▪ Wildlife corridors and habitat | ▪ Reduction in impervious surfaces |
| ▪ Conservation easements | ▪ Compact multi-use development |
| ▪ Natural resources inventory | ▪ Infill/redevelopment |
| ▪ Expanded mobility related to
bike/walking paths or greenways | ▪ On-site stormwater treatment |



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