

Sewee to Santee Water Quality Improvements

Working with Landowners to Reduce Bacteria in Our Waterways

The Problem

Many shellfish beds in the Sewee to Santee area are closed for harvesting because certain bacteria levels are too high. This bacteria comes from human and animal waste and can be carried into our waterways when it rains.

Common bacteria sources in the Sewee to Santee area are failing septic systems, pet waste, livestock waste, and marine sanitary waste discharged from boats.

What We're Doing

The Charleston Soil and Water Conservation District received a grant to work with landowners to reduce bacteria levels. The goal of the grant is to improve and protect water quality in the area. To do this, the District is providing the majority of costs associated with practices that reduce bacteria. This includes repairing or replacing faulty septic systems and fencing livestock out of streams. The District is also working to educate the community, establish new shellfish beds and provide a pumpout station for marine sanitary waste.



**Sewee to Santee
Grant Project Area**



Grant-funded installation of a shallow septic system in the Sewee to Santee area

Why does this matter? In addition to establishing community pride, reduced bacteria levels mean that more shellfish harvesting could occur and drinking water supplies could be protected. Eco-tourism could increase and recreation be enhanced!

Want to know more?

See back for additional resources. To find out more about the grant or to participate, contact:

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