



Rural Resource Coalition SC

2017 Major Goals and Focus Areas

Mission

Our mission is to capitalize on South Carolina's human and natural resources in order to improve the quality of life for all her citizens by promoting sustainable economic development in rural communities and wise stewardship of her land and water.*

Long Term Goals

1. Advance policy for sustainable rural economic development.
2. Grow grassroots efforts to support the work of this coalition and our goals.
3. Promote the value of natural resources (land, water, wildlife habitats) along with rural communities' human resources and assets.
4. Provide ongoing support for key resource agencies and higher education institutions.
5. Facilitate a demonstration project among partners to highlight the viability of one of the RRC-SC's sectors to create jobs and benefit an underserved rural community.

Focus Areas

- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy:** Encourage expansion of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs in rural SC and participation in solar rebate and community solar programs; assist in helping establish energy efficiency and renewable energy workforce development programs.
- **Heritage-based & Outdoor Rural Tourism:** Bolster economic development through tourism that highlights history, culture, and local agriculture in rural South Carolina; increases outdoor recreational opportunities, and stimulates local business by showcasing and marketing the unique assets of South Carolina, including heritage, rural communities, and leveraging key partnerships and resources.
- **Forestry Landowner Outreach:** Help landowners manage forest resources for long-term success, supporting growth of primary and secondary value-added forestry, enhanced forest inventory, tree improvement, and connecting landowners with existing support programs and networks statewide.
- **Farmer Outreach:** Assist experienced and emerging farmers with better utilizing farmland for long-term success, connect them with existing support networks and programs to help meet demand for local products, and provide farm transition assistance to keep land in agricultural use.
- **Local Healthy Food Access:** Help farmers and entrepreneurs conceptualize long-term, sustainable business models that include access to local, healthy foods; work to ensure the availability of low-interest loans to support retail and farm businesses that make healthy food available in underserved areas; and support advocacy and policy efforts that increase access to healthy foods.

*Note on criteria: The main criteria for any goal or focus area is that it ties back to our mission.