



Quarterly Update

IN THE NEWS



Hurricane Matthew hits Darlington County **News and Press Online, October 11, 2016**

"As soon as Hurricane Matthew's fierce winds subsided, work crews all over Darlington County fanned out to assess the damages and begin the daunting cleanup process.

The Darlington County Emergency Operations Center activated Thursday, October 6 at 7 a.m. to prepare for Hurricane Matthew. All county first responders coordinate through EOC during times of emergency.

"There is still a lot of danger," said Sheriff Wayne Byrd. "Power is still off in the majority of areas. Avoid the dangers - stay off the roads."

In This Issue

In the News
Impacts on Darlington County
DCEDP Spotlight

PROGRESS MEMBERS

Next Board meeting:
December 1, 2016 at noon
at the Coker College
Board Room

Share your news

Do you or your company have any Darlington County news to share? If so, email us [here](#) and we'll include it in our next newsletter and on our website.

Correction:

Carolina & Company Live with Darlington County Progress has been cancelled.

[Read more here](#)

President declares disaster for Florence County, State of South Carolina and 12 other counties

[Florence Morning News, October 11, 2016](#)

"COLUMBIA, S.C. - In response to Governor Nikki Haley's request, President Barack Obama declared a major disaster exists in the State of South Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement state and local recovery efforts in 13 counties most severely affected by Hurricane Matthew.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Program helps reimburse local governments, state agencies, eligible private non-profit organizations and electric co-operatives for certain expenses they have incurred. Federal disaster aid is not available for individual residents at this time.

On October 10, Governor Haley formally requested a disaster declaration from the White House for Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, **Darlington**, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper, Marion, and Williamsburg counties. Her request followed an assessment of damages by representatives of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, affected electric co-operatives, and local and municipal governments."

[Read more here](#)



Darlington County Progress Annual Meeting

[September 29, 2016](#)

Darlington County Progress held its annual meeting at the SiMT conference center on September 29, 2016 with guest speaker, Jack Shuler, of the Palmetto AgriBusiness Council.

Mr. Shuler reported that the impact of the agribusiness industry including forestry and agriculture was \$42 billion in South Carolina. He noted that Darlington

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County was well-suited to expanding agribusiness as a target industry due to the abundant water and experienced workforce. He remarked that as food processors moved closer to their markets to improve freshness and limit contamination from older facilities, the food industry would look for new facilities close to rail and interstates. Darlington County was well-positioned to provide those needs as shown by other food processors that had already moved to the Pee Dee Region.

Five board members were re-elected to new terms including Roger Buckley of Sonoco, LaJuan Davis of JBE, Inc., Curry Dawkins of Dawkins Concrete, John Nichols of First Citizens Bank and Kerry Tharp of Darlington Raceway.

IMPACTS ON DARLINGTON COUNTY



SC Ports Authority Finalizes Plans to Construct Second Inland Port

September 12, 2016

"Today South Carolina Ports Authority announced plans to develop a second inland port in Dillon, South Carolina to support growth of intermodal container volumes and expand access to markets in neighboring states and throughout the Northeast and Midwest.

"Inland Port Dillon will be a great diversification of our state's logistics footprint," said Jim Newsome, SCPA president and CEO. "Building intermodal infrastructure in our state goes hand-in-hand with the significant investment we are making to our port facilities in Charleston. This is an exciting opportunity for SCPA."

[Read more here](#)

DCEDP SPOTLIGHT



South Carolina
Department of Commerce

Just right for business.

Industry experts discuss their roles at Florence seminar

Florence Morning News, August 23, 2016

"FLORENCE, S.C. -- Existing industry was the focus of a Tuesday morning seminar hosted by the Darlington County Economic Development Partnership, as several experts explained their roles and what they do to grow industry in South Carolina and abroad.

Frank Willis welcomed attendees to the event at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology on the campus of Florence-Darlington Technical College and explained that it came about through a partnership of his economic development office in Darlington County along with the S.C. Department of Commerce and the S.C. Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

"I hope you'll find something that will help your business or your industry or whatever it is you're representing," he said, as he asked the audience to give feedback following the conference."

[Read more here](#)



Darlington County
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

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