

Charleston County News Release

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See photo of EPA grant check presentation:

http://www.charlestoncounty.org/NewsImages/epa.htm

Charleston County's "Living Green" TV Show Airs Sixth Episode

This month's topic: "Emerging Technologies"

Viewers can watch the sixth episode of "Living Green," <u>Charleston County Government's</u> 30-minute green lifestyle TV show, in April. The show airs on channels WTAT FOX 24 and My TV Charleston each month.

This month's topic is "Emerging Technologies" and will include representatives speaking about the potential for near-shore wind energy production in South Carolina and the associated ongoing research. There will also be a discussion on technology available to reduce household waste by converting trash into compact pellets that can be used in industrial applications as a fuel source to replace coal and reduce emissions of air pollutants.

Featured guests in the sixth episode of "Living Green" are:

- Marc Tye, Vice President for Conservation and Renewable Energy, Santee Cooper
- Dr. Paul Gayes, Director of the Center for Marine and Wetland Studies, Coastal Carolina University
- Gary Lambertson, Lundell Enterprises

"Living Green's" sixth episode is scheduled to air on the following dates and times:

DATE TIME/STATION

Saturday, April 25 8 a.m. on WTAT FOX 24 (Comcast channel 6)

Tuesday, April 28 10:30 a.m. on My TV Charleston, WMMP (Comcast channel 13)

The County's show is funded through a \$236,498 <u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</u> (EPA) <u>Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) grant</u> given for Charleston County's continuing participation in its <u>Project Impact Partnership Program</u>, which aims to reduce local air and water pollution through public education programs.

"The TV show is part of an extensive educational campaign that we are taking on in order to provide information and assistance to our citizens on ways to reduce pollution and improve our air and water quality in order to protect the environment for future generations," said Carl Simmons, Charleston County's Building Inspection Services Director who oversees the County's Project Impact program.

The show's host, Matthew Horton, is a journalism major at the College of Charleston who is doing an internship at Fox 24 and MYTV. Guests and panelists appear on the show, including experts and scientists on the local, state and national level.

In addition to the "Living Green" TV show, other educational campaigns being developed through the CARE project will also focus on:

- Reducing on-road diesel emissions through reduced idling, retrofits and the use of alternative fuel vehicles
- Controlling open burning
- Promoting mass transit and encouraging the use of public transportation
- Working with boaters to address marine pollution
- Other air and water pollution reduction strategies aimed at the both the general public and specific audiences

SIDEBAR: Background information on EPA's CARE Grant and Charleston County's Project Impact

- EPA's award is part of EPA's Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program, a community-based, community-driven program that builds partnerships to help the public understand and reduce toxic risks from numerous sources.
- Since the program was established four years ago, CARE has provided a total of \$10.25 million to more than 65 communities nationwide. The Charleston County CARE project is one of just six awarded in the southeast region.
- The Charleston County's Project Impact Partnership program was formed in 1999 with the help of a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant. There are now 172 local partnership members who focus on making the Charleston County communities more disaster resistant, including undertaking environmental improvement endeavors.
- Project partners previously conducted the Charleston Region Toxics Risk Assessment
 and identified particulate air pollution and ground level ozone as priority air toxics risks,
 and fecal coliform bacteria, petroleum product releases and trace metals as priority water
 pollutants in the Charleston County area. Through the CARE project, project partners aim
 to heighten local residents' awareness of these air and water pollution sources and
 encourage actions that individuals can take to reduce pollution.
- Established in 2005, CARE is a competitive grant program that offers an innovative way
 for communities to organize and take action to reduce toxic pollution in their air, land and
 water. By joining forces, for-profit and non-profit organizations can work together to
 improve the environmental health of a community and its residents.

Visit the EPA CARE Web site at www.epa.gov/care or Charleston County's web site http://www.charlestoncounty.org/Departments/BuildingServices/care.htm to learn more about the CARE program.

To schedule a presentation on environmental quality and pollution issues, local groups can contact <u>Charleston County Government's Building Services Department</u> by phone at (843) 202-6940 or by e-mail at care@charlestoncounty.org.