



## Charleston County News Release

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# Charleston County's "Living Green" – *Charleston Air Quality and Trucking*

*U.S. EPA Grant funds Charleston County's pollution-reducing education programs*

Viewers can watch the next episode of "Living Green," [Charleston County Government's](#) 30-minute green lifestyle TV show, in August. The show airs on channels WTAT Fox 24 and My TV Charleston each month.

This month's topic is "Charleston Air Quality and Trucking," and it features the environmental efforts of the [S.C. State Ports Authority](#) as well as local shipping companies that are transitioning into greener technologies to improve efficiency and preserve the environment.

The episode also features the [S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Division of Air Quality Analysis](#) and will discuss how the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) regulates pollutants.

Watch this month to learn more about the local trucking industry and what they are doing to make Charleston's air cleaner.

### **The next "Living Green" episode is scheduled to air on the following dates and times:**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME/STATION</b>
Saturdays in August	9-9:30 a.m. on WTAT FOX 24 (Comcast channel 6)
Saturdays in August	11-11:30 a.m. on My TV Charleston, WMMP (Comcast channel 13)

### **Featured guests in this episode of "Living Green" are:**

- Jeannie Adame, Environmental Affairs Manager, S.C. State Ports Authority (SPA)
  - Did you know there are funding opportunities to repower your diesel engines for greater efficiency?
- Mike Stresemann, General Manager, Crane & Equipment Maintenance, SPA
  - Discover what the SPA is doing to increase port efficiency and productivity.
- Randy Cook, Environmental Health Manager, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)
  - Have you ever heard of criteria particulate? Find out what they are and how DHEC monitors them.
- Patrick Barber, President, Superior Transportation
  - Big trucks are still cool, and now they are zero emissions at rest!

The County's show is funded through a \$236,498 [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) [Community Action for a Renewed Environment \(CARE\) grant](#) given for Charleston County's

continuing participation in its [Project Impact Partnership Program](#), 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 Inspections Director who oversees the County’s Project Impact program.

Guests and panelists on the show include experts and scientists on the local, state and national level.

#### **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 three years ago, CARE has provided a total of \$7.75 million to more than 49 communities nationwide. The Charleston County CARE project is one of just five 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](http://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 pose environmental questions or suggest topics for future episodes of Living Green, e-mail [carecommunityforum@gmail.com](mailto:carecommunityforum@gmail.com) or “Like” Care Community Forum on Facebook.

To schedule a presentation on environmental quality and pollution issues, local groups can contact [Charleston County Government’s Building Inspections Department](#) at (843) 202-6940.