

ASCE SC Section News

American Society of Civil Engineers

February 2026 - May 2026

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Dear fellow ASCE Members,

As we move through 2026, I'm proud of the progress highlighted in this issue. From celebrating ASCE's 175th anniversary to showcasing South Carolina's historic OCEA projects, we're reminded of the lasting impact civil engineers make across our state.

Our Section was well represented at the 2026 Legislative Fly-In, where members advocated for WRDA, transportation investment, and resilient infrastructure funding. At the same time, the 2026 Infrastructure Report Card is nearing completion, including our first chapter on Coastal Resilience, with final release expected later this summer.

We're also excited to share updated Scholarship Guidelines, expanding opportunities for students and STEM programs statewide. And with Section elections opening July 1, I encourage every member to participate and help shape our future leadership.

Thank you for your continued commitment to ASCE and to the communities we serve. Together, we honor 175 years of engineering excellence while building a stronger, more resilient South Carolina.

Warm regards, Gwen Sollenberger

2026 Award Nominations

The ASCE SC Section is now accepting nominations for the following categories:

- LeTellier Cup
- SC Civil Engineer of the Year
- Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award
- SC Young Civil Engineer of the Year
- Distinguished Service to People Award
- Section Leadership Award
- Section Service Award
- Section Educator of the Year
- Technical Merit Award
- Project of the Year



Please submit your nomination to Ryan Harvey at rharvey@rowepsc.com by July 1, 2026 for consideration. Awards will be recognized at the Annual SC ASCE Conference in September

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Celebrating 175 Years of Engineering Excellence: Honoring ASCE's Legacy in South Carolina

This year, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) celebrates its **175th anniversary**, a remarkable milestone in the history of our profession. While the South Carolina Section continues its proud legacy of service and innovation, we're honoring this national celebration by spotlighting significant engineering projects across our state on our website. The Section has compiled a list of Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) Award finalists and winners located within our geographic area. You can find this list under the Resources tab at

<https://sections.asce.org/south-carolina/resources-0>

Featured landmarks include the Augusta Canal & Industrial District (1845), the Charleston-Hamburg Railroad (1833), the Dreher Shoals Dam (1930), and the Keowee-Toxaway Power Project (1975)—each a testament to the vision and skill of civil engineers who shaped South Carolina's development.

These sites are not only engineering marvels but are also accessible to visitors. We encourage you to explore them—many are within easy reach from anywhere in the state.

Here's to 175 years of progress, and to the future we continue to build together.



Keowee-Toxaway Power Project - 1975 OCEA Winner

ASCE Legislative Fly-In 2026: South Carolina Advocates for Resilient Infrastructure

The South Carolina Section was proudly represented at the 2026 ASCE Legislative Fly-In in Washington, D.C., where members joined engineers from across the nation to advocate for critical infrastructure legislation.

Jonathan Ard (Eastern Branch), Renée Gardner (Midlands Branch), Matthew Miller (Upstate Branch), Jeff Parker (CSRV Branch), and Michael Zavislak (At-Large) met with staff from the offices of Senator Lindsey Graham, Senator Tim Scott, Representative Joe Wilson, and Representative William Timmons.

The delegation emphasized the importance of reauthorizing the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) and the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act, stressing that sustained federal funding is essential to maintain safe, resilient infrastructure. Discussions focused on the need for forward-looking investments that support economic growth, public safety, and long-term sustainability across South Carolina and the nation. Their advocacy highlights ASCE's ongoing commitment to shaping policy that empowers engineers to build a stronger, more adaptable future.

We encourage young engineers and recent graduates to step forward and join future ASCE Legislative Fly-Ins. This is a powerful opportunity to learn how policy shapes our profession, build connections with lawmakers, and represent the next generation of civil engineering. Each year, ASCE hosts a day-long series of presentations and training sessions to prepare delegates—covering key legislation, messaging, and meeting best practices. Just bring your passion for infrastructure and public service. Reach out to your branch leadership to express interest and get involved early!



Representative Timmon's Office



Senator Graham's Office



Representative Wilson's Office

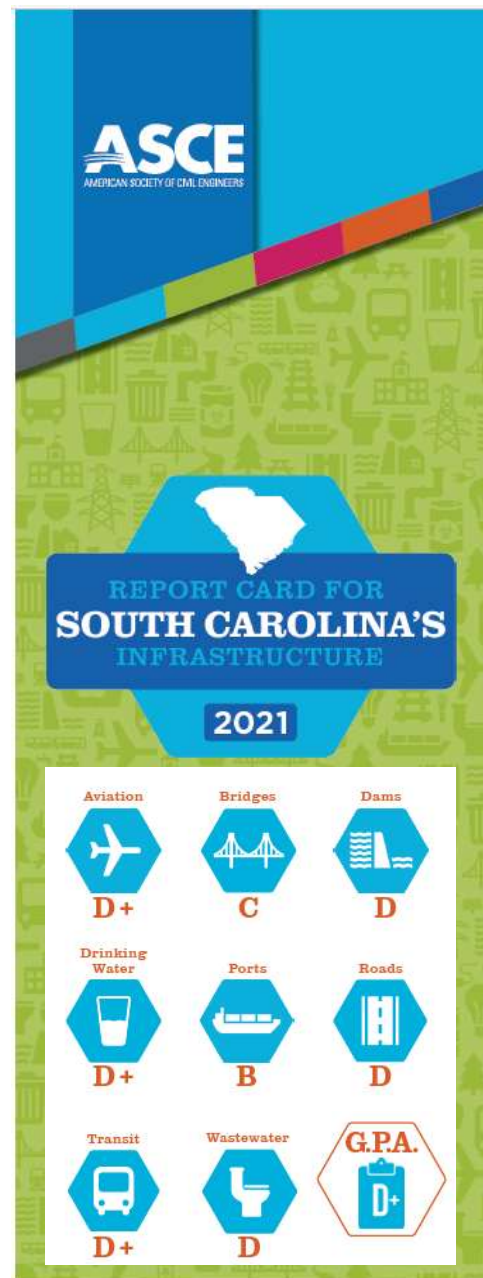
Infrastructure Report Card 2026: Progress and a New Chapter on Coastal Resilience

The ASCE South Carolina Section's Infrastructure Report Card Committee, co-chaired by Jonathan Ard and Renée Gardner, has been actively advancing the 2026 update, holding monthly check-ins to ensure steady progress. We're pleased to announce that volunteer authors have been secured for key chapters—**Roads, Bridges, Transit, Water, Wastewater, Ports, Dams, and Aviation**—and for the first time, we're introducing a new chapter: **Coastal Resilience**, reflecting the growing importance of protecting our shoreline communities.

We extend our sincere thanks to the dedicated engineers who have stepped forward to author these critical assessments. Their expertise and commitment are the foundation of this report's credibility and impact.

Draft chapters were submitted for high-level review by Section members in late February, followed by updated versions sent to the national ASCE Society for its review in mid-to-late March. The committee is now conducting Factual Accuracy Reviews with relevant state and local agencies to ensure the report's credibility and impact.

The final release is targeted for late August or early September. This report will be a vital tool for advocating infrastructure investment with your local SC representatives. We also encourage young engineers to get involved in future updates—your perspective and energy are essential to shaping the next edition. Stay tuned for the release!



The ASCE South Carolina Infrastructure Report Card is modeled after the national ASCE Report Card for America's Infrastructure, providing state-specific insights to drive investment and innovation.

Pictured at left are: Ryan Harvey, Jonathan Ard, and Jonathan Thrasher at the 2021 Press Release.

New Scholarship Guidelines Now Live

Over the past few months, our newly formed Scholarship Committee has been hard at work developing clear, fair guidelines and application rules to support the next generation of engineers. We're excited to announce that updated application forms are now available on the South Carolina Section website or reach out to your specific Branch Leader.

These Grant and Scholarships are designed to support both K-12 STEM opportunities and graduate students pursuing civil engineering or related fields. Whether you're a student, educator, or mentor, we encourage you to share this opportunity with those who qualify.

Visit the [Resources](#) page today to learn more and apply.



Midlands Branch Director - [Kiera Hughes](#)

Eastern Branch Director - [Jonathan Ard](#)

Upstate Branch Director - [Ryan Holder](#)

CSRV Branch Director - [Mark Lorah](#)

Grand Strand Branch Director - [Ryan Harvey](#)

Catawba Branch Director - [Brad Ross](#)

Your Voice, Your Future: It's Time to Vote in the 2026 ASCE SC Elections

The ASCE SC 2026 election will soon be underway, and your vote matters! From July 1 to August 1, all members in good standing have the opportunity to shape the future of our Section by casting their ballot online at asce.org/VoteNow using their ASCE login.

We encourage you to get involved—not just by voting, but by nominating dedicated colleagues and volunteering to support the process. Every nominee brings fresh perspective, and every vote strengthens our collective voice.

Whether you're a long-time member or new to ASCE, this is your chance to help guide our profession forward. Let's build a future that reflects our values, innovation, and commitment to excellence—vote today!



The following positions will be on the ballot:

- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- At-Large Director

The following positions are open for volunteers:

- Younger Member Forum
- Membership Chairperson

Congratulations to Dr. Perry Green on Receiving the 2026 ASCE Society Award!

The ASCE South Carolina Section Board is pleased to share a special message from ASCE Chief Operating Officer Edward Stafford, congratulating **Dr. Perry Green** on being honored with a distinguished Society Award.

This recognition highlights Dr. Green's outstanding contributions to civil engineering and his lasting impact on our profession. The award reflects not only his technical excellence but also his leadership and service to the engineering community.

The Board joins in celebrating this achievement and encourages all members to extend their congratulations.

Well done, Dr. Green—your accomplishments inspire us all!



“For cumulative efforts and outstanding achievements in the research, teaching and engagement of the profession as it relates to the stability analysis and design of steel/metal structures thereby making substantial advancements to codes and standards of structural steel and cold-formed steel.”

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:



- **May 17, 2026**, International Conference on Coastal Engineering (ICEC), Galveston, TX
- **June 4-6, 2026**, SC Engineering Conference & Trade Show, Myrtle Beach, SC
- **June 25-27, 2026**, Student Championships, Fairmont, West Virginia
- **September 2026**, ASCE SC Annual Conference, Location TBD
- **November 5, 2026**, ASCE Day and kickoff for the 175th anniversary celebration
- **Feb 28-March 5, 2027**, Philadelphia, PA, ASCE 2027 “The Infrastructure and Engineering Experience”
- **Fall 2027** ERYMC/MRLC - to be held in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, (date TBD)

ASCE SOUTH CAROLINA SECTION
SC SECTION (1934) Website
sections.asce.org/south-carolina