



The Landing Rate Count

Newsletter of the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association

The President's Message

Esteemed colleagues and friends,
For those of you who are unfamiliar, my name is Chelsey Reed, and I am the Supervisor of Richland County Vector Control here in the capital city of South Carolina. I have worked in the mosquito control industry for almost six years, and it is a great honor to serve as the President of this association. I follow in the footsteps of incredible leaders such as Tammy Brewer, Olin Towery, Dr. Chris Evans, Johnny Bruton, James Brock, and countless others who have taught (and continue to teach) me so much about this important work and all that it entails. Additionally, I am thrilled to be working alongside a dedicated and energetic Board of Directors who care deeply about the association and its impact on you, the hard-working folks on the front lines of an often unnoticed, underappreciated, and thankless job.

The challenges we face are not glamorous, but they are critical. Through your dedication, selflessness, and commitment to excellence, we are preventing the spread of vector-borne diseases and improving the quality of life for so many South Carolinians. Please know that I, along with the board, see your hard work and are deeply grateful for your continued efforts. Thank you for attending the training events, for your feedback, and for encouraging others to join our association. Remember, we are a resource built for you, and we want to represent you to the best of our ability! Please never hesitate to reach out to me, or anyone on the board, with your ideas and suggestions. I look forward to the year ahead and wish you all success as we move into warmer weather and longer days!

In gratitude,
Chelsey Reed



SCMCA PRESIDENT - CHELSEY REED

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SAVE THE DATE!

SCMCA SUMMER WORKSHOP

**SANTEE COOPER WAMPÉE
CONFERENCE CENTER
PINOPOLIS, SC**

**JUNE 5, 2025
9:00AM**

Possible Dissolution of the Santee Cooper Vector Management Program

The South Carolina Mosquito Control Association was made aware of the potential dissolution of Santee Cooper's Vector Management program (SCVM) at the SCMCA Annual Meeting in November 2024. SCVM has supported the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association in numerous ways over the years, most notably by graciously allowing the SCMCA to utilize its Wampee Conference Center in Pinopolis, SC for the Summer Workshop every year at no charge.

Despite Santee Cooper Vector Management having been responsible for conducting mosquito abatement activities along the boundaries of Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie since 1934, a renewed Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license that lacks an explicit mosquito control requirement has prompted Santee Cooper to eliminate the Vector Management program.

Lakes Marion and Moultrie are surrounded by numerous residential subdivisions and are popular recreation areas for thousands of South Carolinians. This service territory includes area in Berkeley, Calhoun, Clarendon, Orangeburg, and Sumter counties, all of which rely upon Santee Cooper Vector Management's efforts to preserve the habitability of communities on the Lakes and protect the public health of the Lakes' residents and visitors.

In a best-case scenario, dissolving SCVM shifts the burdens of responsibility and expense for conducting mosquito abatement activities to the taxpayers of the Lakes' five surrounding counties. In a worst-case scenario, eliminating the Vector Management program eliminates mosquito abatement activities in its service area. Although most recreators may be most concerned with mosquitoes as a nuisance, SCVM's mosquito control activities include arbovirus surveillance, the lack of which will leave these communities more vulnerable to mosquito-borne illnesses such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus.

The value Santee Cooper Vector Management provides to these communities cannot be overstated and the potential harm that ensues from dissolving the program would be incalculable.

The SCMCA stands firmly in support of Santee Cooper Vector Management in urging Santee Cooper leadership to reconsider this disastrous decision. If you are a concerned vector control professional, a resident of the Lakes or affected counties, a Santee Cooper ratepayer, or someone who simply enjoys recreating at Lake Marion or Lake Moultrie, we urge you to write to Santee Cooper executive leadership and express your concern. For your convenience, emails are listed below.

~Andrew Pierson
SCMCA Vice President

[Jimmy Staton](#) - Santee Cooper President and CEO
[Carmen Thomas](#) - Santee Cooper Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel
[Brian Lynch](#) - Santee Cooper Director of Environmental Services

2025 SCMCA Sustaining Members



Al and Shanda Allen
843-358-3583



Al Royster
606-682-3477



Derek Wright
941-737-9883



Mike Riles
850-628-0091



Trey English
Office: 866-829-0275
Cell: 229-300-0091



Sydney Brogden
828-735-1760



Chad Minter
208-595-1435



Beaufort County Mosquito Control
843-255-5800



Katie Williams
803-335-6893

Meet your New Board Members

Lower Region Delegate - Nathan Shillinglaw



Hey, my name is Nathan Shillinglaw and I am the new lower region delegate for 2025. I am from a small town called St. Stephen where my wife and I live with our three kids. I graduated from Charleston Southern University with a bachelor's degree in biology. I started my career working with the Department of Natural Resources during and after college for a couple years and then went to manufacturing for a while. I finally made it over to the Santee Cooper family in 2018, where I worked in coal lab and then made the transition over to being an Environmental Technician in the Vector Management group. I enjoy working to improve the lives of South Carolinians by treating the areas around Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie for mosquitoes and other pests. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the lower region delegate this year.

Middle Region Delegate - Lynn Tribble

My name is Lynn Tribble and I was born and raised here in Lexington County in a small town called Gilbert. I have worked for the County of Lexington for 10 years and have been with Vector Control for three years. I have been married to my husband Danny for 16 years and we have two beautiful daughters Dalyn and Kayla. During my free time I enjoy camping, cooking, and watching my daughter play travel ball. I am honored to serve you as your middle region representative for the South Carolina Mosquito Control Assosiation.



Vice President - Andrew Pierson



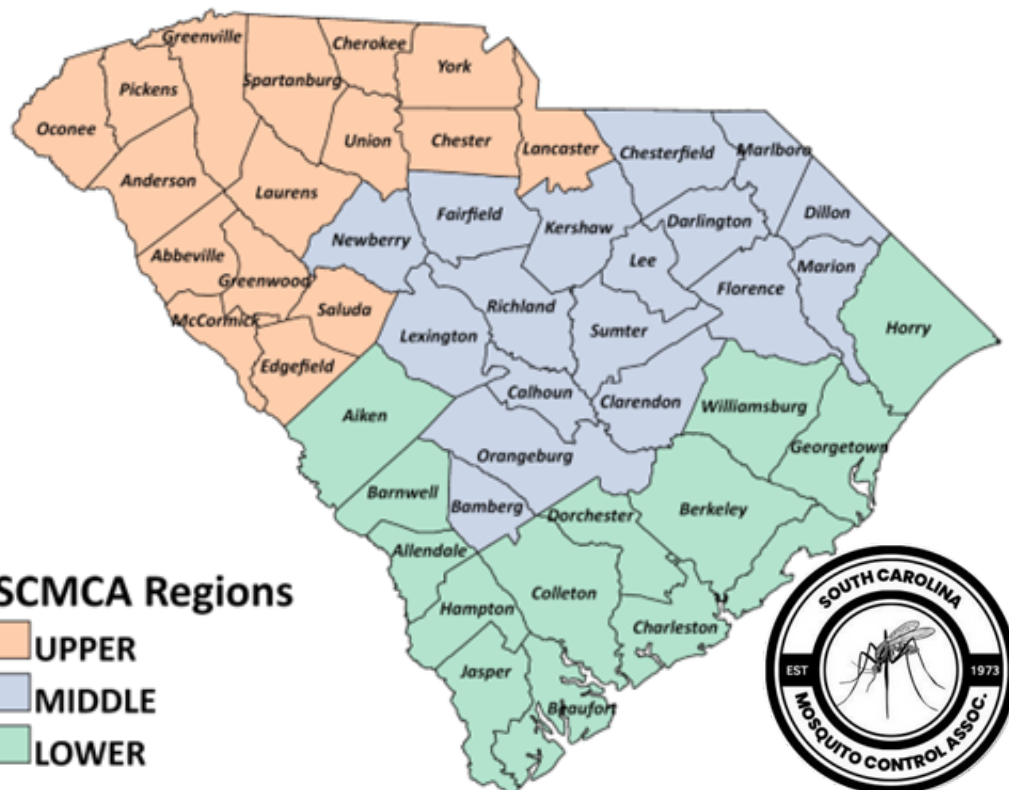
I'm Andrew Pierson and it is my honor to serve as your Vice President. I graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a BS in Biological Sciences in 2020 and worked as a mosquito surveillance technician at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management before becoming an Entomologist at the Charleston County Mosquito Control Program in January of 2022. My passions include counting bugs, collecting shark teeth, and presenting mosquito facts to captive audiences. In the time I serve as Vice President, my goal is to enable the SCMCA to provide as much value to its members as it can through education and training opportunities. I thank you for your trust and look forward to serving all SCMCA members.

SCMCA Regions and Delegates

Upper Region:
Kenneth Juergens
864-992-1305

Middle Region:
Lynn Tribble
803-785-8440

Lower Region:
Nathan Shillinglaw



SCMCA Survey Links

The SCMCA's purpose as a professional organization is to provide education and training opportunities to mosquito control professionals in the Palmetto State. To provide the most value to our members, we're sending surveys to gather topic ideas, gauge interest in meeting topics, and allow for more member input in the SCMCA. We would greatly appreciate if you would complete these surveys at your convenience to make your voice heard.

Meeting Topics

Mosquito ID Course Interest

SCMCA Merchandise



Summer Workshop

This year's Summer Workshop will be held at the Santee Cooper Wampee Conference Center on June 5, 2025. Lunch will be provided by Music Man BBQ

Topics include (but are not limited to) general mosquito biology, ULV maintenance, safety and PPE, and tick surveillance.

Please email [Bevly Whitmire](mailto:BevlyWhitmire@scmca.org) to RSVP at your earliest convenience.



Annual Meeting

Save the date for the SCMCA's 2025 Annual Meeting!

The meeting will be held at the Beach House Resort in Hilton Head Island, SC. on November 5-7, 2025.

If you have ideas for topics you would like to learn about or would like to present, please reach out to your regional delegate or email [Andrew Pierson](mailto:Andrew.Pierson@scmca.org).

Middle Region Updates

Chesterfield County

A new sprayer was purchased with the hurricane funding grant and will be installed this spring, upgrading from the Clark Cougar sprayer to the Grizzly. A backpack sprayer was also acquired for fogging and for use in parks and areas inaccessible by the truck. The department remains under Jaime's leadership, with an individual working under his license. No complaints have been reported so far. Due to proximity to the Pee Dee area, larviciding will begin in late March.

Darlington County

No major updates currently, possibly hoping to bring on some new people for trapping and spraying. Three new hires in the department, hoping to have some of these improve on the mosquito control program. Also hoping to use the hurricane relief funding to bolster the program. As of January a new public works director has been appointed.

Florence County

Florence County is using the funding from the hurricane recovery grant they purchased two new spraying units and upgraded their software package (GIS data) to better track spraying locations and complaints.

Marlboro County

Marlboro County used hurricane recovery funding to buy a new sprayer and more product. They are hoping to keep up with mosquito requests this year, as they started late last year. They are also seeking to get certification for mosquito spraying for the public works director and part time staff.

Newberry County

Business as usual; there are no new employees, preparation, or adverse to report in an uneventful off-season.

Orangeburg County

Gregory Pest Control is no longer on contract, and Orangeburg is putting out a Request for Proposals and hoping to award a contract quickly.

Sumter County

Getting ready for the upcoming season. No new employees, but the same guys are coming back this year to do the spraying. Basic prep during the off season – maintaining equipment and communicating with employees and communities to respond to complaints.

Richland County

Richland County has stayed busy in the off season with equipment maintenance and trap repair. They are now in the process of hiring two new full-time employees who will start in March, just in time for catch basin treatments! With the hurricane funding, two new ATVs have been purchased and everyone is very excited to put them to use. Chelsey Reed will be attending the AMCA Annual Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico in March. Otherwise, they are preparing for a busy season ahead of trapping, treating, and training!

Lower Region Updates

Charleston County

CCMC has spent the winter performing equipment maintenance and plotting a course for spring. Among other projects, CCMC has begun mapping storm drains in FieldSeeker to implement a more comprehensive treatment program. The new Public Works complex nears completion, with an anticipated move-in date sometime between June and August. Mosquito Control in particular is poised to receive vastly improved facilities, including a new lab and a dry ice pelletizer that was purchased with the first round of hurricane recovery funding.

City of North Myrtle Beach

The City of North Myrtle Beach has been hard at work this winter preparing for the upcoming year. As spring approaches, we have completed the treatment of our stormwater system with larvicide and are now focusing on wetlands and retention ponds. This year, we plan to purchase four new ULV machines.

We've had a cooler winter with slightly less rainfall than usual, which we hope will result in fewer mosquito complaints this summer. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Summer Workshop later this season.

Horry County

Hi Everyone ,
I hope everyone had a good holiday season!! Now unfortunately it's time to go back to the grind. We have had a really dry winter, as you can tell by our wildfire problem. Fortunately we have not lost any homes or businesses as I'm writing this. A big Thanks to all of the first responders throughout the county and state!! We are still waiting on our new building to be completed hopefully we will be in it by the end of June. We have just finished our first round of larviciding for the year and have gotten all of the spray trucks ready for action as well as out traps. Also we'll be purchasing at least 4 more ULV sprayers this year to add to the fleet. We just hired another Mosquito Tech (Raymond Usher) and will be adding a couple more by late spring we have also added an administrative assistant (Crystal Mew) , as the county counties to grow so do we. In the off season everyone got their licenses as well as spill training. Hopefully we won't have any major storms this year!! Look forward to seeing everyone at the summer workshop, Stay Safe!!

Santee Cooper

Santee Cooper's Vector Management is preparing for another busy season. We were able to do our droplet testing early this year with the warmer weather and have already started receiving spray requests from constituents in the area. We were able to add Chris Allen to the team late last year to help recover from two other employees retiring last year. The Vector team has been given a directive from our CEO that he will be disbanding our program this year so please reach out if you have any questions. Hope everyone has a great season.

2024 SCMCA Annual Meeting November 6-8, 2024



2025 BoD: Tammy Brewer, Ken Juergens, Lynn Tribble, Chelsey Reed, Andrew Pierson, Johnny Bruton, Beverly Whitmire



SOUTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Attn: Beverly Whitmire, Secretary Treasurer
Richland County Vector Control
400 Powell Road
Columbia, SC 29203

OFFICE PHONE: (803) 576-2426

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP/ DUES (Renewal due at Annual Meeting)

Active Member	\$ 25.00
*Sustaining Member	\$250.00

*Includes one active membership

Please make checks payable to SCMCA and return to Beverly Whitmire at the address above.

For Office Use Only:	Region: Upper / Middle / Lower
Amount Paid \$ _____	Date Paid: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Card (Add 3.5% convenience fee)

Mosquito Control Resources

[American Mosquito Control Association](#)

[AMCA Online Training Center](#)

[AMCA Yesterday's Threat Today's Solutions](#)

[CDC Vector-Borne Diseases](#)

[CDC Arbovirus Maps](#)

[EPA Insect Repellents Use and Effectiveness](#)

[Clemson Department of Pesticide Regulation](#)

[Clemson DPR CEU Search - Noncommercial](#)

[Clemson Cooperative Extension Beekeeping](#)

[South Carolina Beekeeper Association](#)

[SC DPH Mosquitoes in South Carolina](#)

[Florida Medical Entomology Lab & ID Guide](#)

[Florida Mosquito Control Association](#)

[Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association](#)

[North Carolina Mosquito Control Association](#)

[Society for Vector Ecology \(SOVE\)](#)