WELCOME TO SOUTH CAROLINA

THE PALMETTO STATE

Pam Thomas
State Soil Scientist
Land Area: 31,400 square miles; 40th in size
Geographic Areas: Upstate, Midlands, Pee Dee, Lowcountry
Highest Point: Sassafras Mountain 3,560 feet

Population: 4.5 million (24th)
Growth: 10th fastest in U.S.
Counties: 46
SWCD’s: 46
- **Coast** = 190 miles
- **Inland water** = 1,000 mi²
- **Largest lake** = Lake Marion, 175 mi²
- **Longest river** = Savannah, 240 miles, border between SC and GA
- **Largest river basin** = Santee, 140 miles long, drains 40% of state
**Trees and More Trees**

- **State tree** = Sabal Palmetto
- **Tree of the South** = Live oak
- **Oldest live oak** = Angel Oak on Johns Island, about 1,500 years old; oldest thing (living or man-made) east of the Rockies
- **Other Tree of the South** = longleaf pine
1ST CONSERVATION PLAN IN U.S.

First Soil Conservation District Plan
On February 4, 1938, Mrs. Ploma M. Adams, owner of this farm, assisted by the Upper Savannah Soil Conservation District, initiated the first Farm-Conservation Plan of any district in America.

February 4, 1938
Largest gingko farm – Sumter

U.S.’s only tea plantation – Charleston

SC leading peach producer east of MS River

Golf first played in SC – Charleston

Sweet grass baskets made in SC for over 300 years

Columbia is nation’s 2nd planned city (Savannah 1st)
South Carolina was the 1st state to export cotton to England (1764)

Boll weevil discovered in SC

Lake Murray has its own Loch Ness monster (Messie)

By law, if a man promises to marry an unwed woman, he must go through with the marriage

Also by law, musical instruments cannot be sold on Sunday

And horses may not be kept in bathtubs
TOP PHRASES OF 2009

Courtesy of the
State of South Carolina
"You lie!" — Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC), shouting out a retort to Obama's address before a joint session of Congress

"The governor is hiking the Appalachian Trail." — a spokesman for South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford

"Keep your government hands off my Medicare." — an anonymous protester at a health care reform town hall meeting in Simpsonville, SC
Assisted 6,300 users (as reported in PRS)

Improved soil quality on 82,000 cropland acres

Applied conservation to improve fish and wildlife habitat on 23,000 acres

Wrote 1,000 conservation plans (85,000 acres)

Created, restored, or enhanced 6,500 acres of wetlands

Improved pasture on 33,000 acres of grazing land

Improved forestlands on 46,000 acres

South Carolina NRCS Accomplishments FY09
Our Partnership with NRCS-SC

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- Science, IT
- ESRI-USC Applications Infrastructure Tech Support
- Development
- Feedback
- Needs, Ideas
- Expertise
- NRCS State Office NRCS Field Offices TSP's

http://www.esri.sc.edu/Projects/usda/usda.html
WATERSHED TEAMS