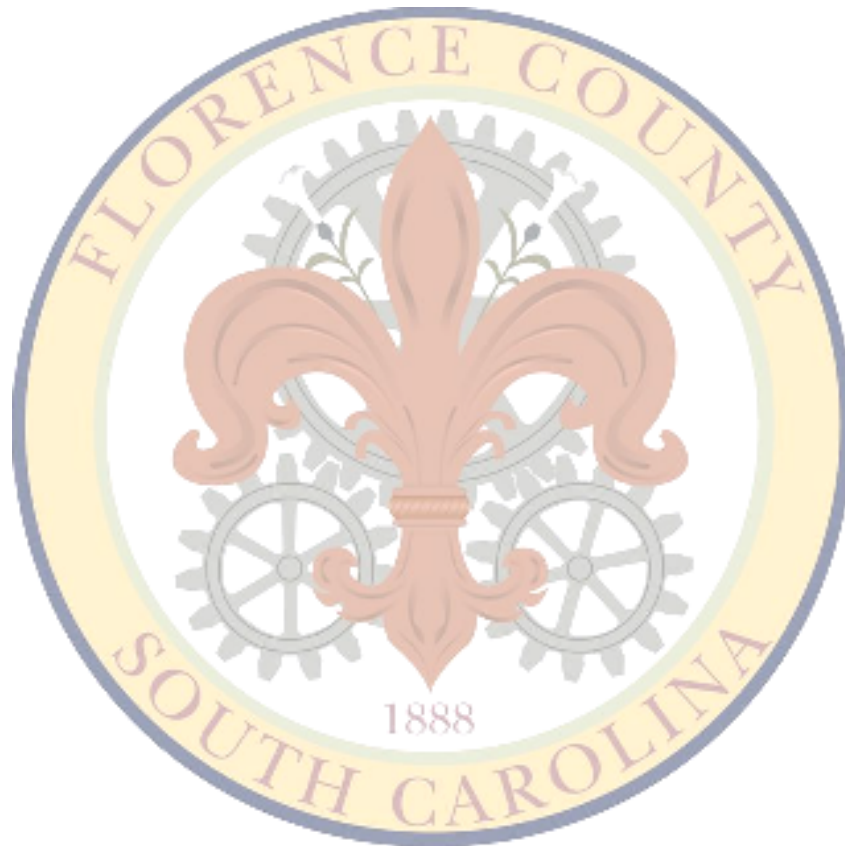


**COMMUNITY FACILITIES
ELEMENT**



**FLORENCE COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Table of Contents

- Executive Summary 6**
- Library Facilities 7**
- Museums 9**
 - The War Between the States Museum 9
 - Railroad Museum 10
 - The Browntown Museum 10
 - The National Bean Market Museum..... 10
 - The Florence Museum of Art, Science, and History 11
- Civic, Arts and Market Venues 11**
 - Florence Civic Center11
 - Back Swamp School12
 - Artisan Center12
 - Florence Little Theatre.....12
 - Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center13
 - Lake City Community Theatre13
 - Pee Dee State Farmers Market.....13
 - Eastern Carolina Agriculture Fair.....14
 - Senior Services14
- Animal Shelters 15**
 - The Florence Area Humane Society Animal Shelter (FAHS)15
 - Florence County Pound.....15
- Parks and Recreation Facilities 15**
 - Rail Trail.....18
 - Francis Marion Trail.....20
 - River Access20
- Education Facilities..... 22**
 - Florence County School District One23
 - Florence County School District Two25
 - Florence County School District Three26
 - Florence County School District Four27
 - Florence County School District Five.....28
 - Francis Marion University29
 - Florence-Darlington Technical College.....30
 - Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology (SiMT)..... 30

Telecommunications.....	31
Media Outlets	31
Print.....	31
TV Broadcasting.....	31
Radio Broadcasting.....	31
Transportation	32
Transit.....	32
Rail Service.....	33
Airports.....	33
Public Health and Safety.....	34
Emergency Preparedness Plan	35
Fire Protection.....	38
Law Enforcement.....	39
Sheriff’s Office	39
Police Departments of Participating Jurisdictions	41
Emergency Medical Services	42
Medical Facilities.....	43
Hospitals	44
Electricity and Natural Gas	46
Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Systems	46
City of Florence Water	46
City of Florence Wastewater	49
City of Florence Stormwater	49
Town of Pamplico Water and Sewer.....	50
Lake City Water and Sewer	50
City of Johnsonville Water and Sewer	50
Town of Quinby Water	52
Town of Scranton Water and Sewer	53
Town of Timmons ville Water and Sewer	53
Town of Olanta Water and Sewer	53
Solid Waste Facilities.....	53
GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES.....	56
GOAL 1.....	56
GOAL 2.....	56
GOAL 3.....	56

GOAL 4.....56
GOAL 5.....57
GOAL 6.....57
GOAL 7.....57
GOAL 8.....57
GOAL 9.....58
GOAL 10.....58
References..... 59
APPENDIX 61

List of Tables

TABLE 6-1. COUNTY LIBRARIES	8
TABLE 6-2. FLORENCE COUNTY AREA PARK FACILITIES	16
TABLE 6-3. SCHOOL STATISTICS BY DISTRICT 2006-2007	22
TABLE 6-4. FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE ENROLLMENT, 2002-2007.....	23
TABLE 6-5. FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO ENROLLMENT, 2002-2007.....	26
TABLE 6-6. FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE ENROLLMENT, 2002-2007.....	27
TABLE 6-7. FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUR ENROLLMENT, 2002-2007.....	28
TABLE 6-8. FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE ENROLLMENT, 2002-2007.....	28
TABLE 6-9. FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT, 2004-2007	29
TABLE 6-10. FLORENCE - DARLINGTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE ENROLLMENT, 2004-2007	30
TABLE 6-11. CITY OF FLORENCE WATER STORAGE CAPACITY.....	46
TABLE 6-12. WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND WELL CAPACITIES FOR THE CITY OF FLORENCE.....	48
TABLE 6-13. CONVENIENCE CENTERS.....	54
TABLE 6-14. ADDITIONAL USED MOTOR OIL COLLECTION SITES.....	54

List of Figures

FIGURE 6-1. THE FLORENCE MAIN LIBRARY.....	7
FIGURE 6-2. LOCATIONS OF MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES AND THEATERS	9
FIGURE 6-3. BROWNTOWN MUSEUM.....	10
FIGURE 6-4. THE FLORENCE MUSEUM OF ART, SCIENCE AND HISTORY.....	11
FIGURE 6-5. FLORENCE CIVIC CENTER	12
FIGURE 6-6. FLORENCE LITTLE THEATER	13
FIGURE 6-7. THE PEE DEE STATE FARMER'S MARKET.....	14
FIGURE 6-8. PARK LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT FLORENCE COUNTY	18
FIGURE 6-9. FLORENCE RAIL.....	19
FIGURE 6-10. CURRENT AND PROPOSED EXTENT OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE TRAIL SYSTEM	19
FIGURE 6-11. COUNTY RIVER LANDING LOCATIONS	21
FIGURE 6-12. FLORENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT GEOGRAPHY	22
FIGURE 6-13. SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE.	23
FIGURE 6-14. SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO.....	25
FIGURE 6-15. SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE.	26
FIGURE 6-16. SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUR.	27
FIGURE 6-17. SCHOOLS LOCATED WITHIN FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE.	28
FIGURE 6-18. FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY.....	29
FIGURE 6-19. SOUTHEASTERN INSTITUTE OF MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGY.....	30
FIGURE 6-20. BUS ROUTES MANAGED BY THE PEE DEE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY.....	33
FIGURE 6-21. LOCATIONS OF AIRPORTS AND RAIL LINES	34
FIGURE 6-22. FLORENCE AREA HURRICANE EVACUATION ROUTES AND SHELTERS.	36
FIGURE 6-23. LOCATION OF FIRE HOUSES AND FIRE DISTRICTS	39
FIGURE 6-24. LOCATIONS OF POLICE DEPARTMENTS.....	41
FIGURE 6-25. HOSPITAL, EMS AND RESCUE LOCATIONS WITH MEDIC DISTRICTS	43
FIGURE 6-26. MCLEOD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER.....	44
FIGURE 6-27. CAROLINAS HOSPITAL	45
FIGURE 6-28. CITY OF FLORENCE SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT.....	47
FIGURE 6-29. WATER SUPPLY LINES PROVIDED BY FLORENCE, PAMPLICO, LAKE CITY AND JOHNSONVILLE.	50
FIGURE 6-30. SEWER LINES PROVIDED BY CITY OF FLORENCE, PAMPLICO, LAKE CITY AND JOHNSONVILLE.	51
FIGURE 6-31. WATER SUPPLY LINES PROVIDED BY TIMMONSVILLE, COWARD, SCRANTON AND OLANTA.....	52
FIGURE 6-32. SEWER LINES PROVIDED BY TIMMONSVILLE AND OLANTA.	53
FIGURE 6-33. CONVENIENCE CENTERS AND OIL RECYCLING LOCATIONS.....	55

Executive Summary

The Community Facilities Element of the Florence County Comprehensive Plan will identify services that are available to county residents. These services, or ‘facilities’, help meet the daily needs and promote quality of life for the community. In order to be effective, these facilities must meet current demand while maintaining adequate resources for future growth and development.

This element is divided into the following sections to detail current service levels and future plans:

1. Civic and Arts Venues such as Libraries, Museums, Parks and Recreation Facilities and Animal Shelters
2. Educational Facilities
3. Communications
4. Transportation
5. Public Safety
6. Medical Facilities
7. Electric and Gas Supply
8. Water and Wastewater Treatment
9. Solid Waste Management

This Community Facilities element reviews many essential subjects to Florence County’s growth and development. As with all elements of this Comprehensive Plan, Community facilities is vitally linked to future land-use planning, especially in fast growing areas such as the cities of Florence and Lake City, where there may be concern about adequate facilities. A well-maintained street network, long-term availability of public utilities, environmental protection, recreational opportunities; and balanced growth are all subjects considered in producing this element.

A current inventory of services provided throughout the County is a main focus of this element. This inventory provides a benchmark to evaluate proposed level of service standards. The inventory of existing facilities also may be used to indicate those services needing maintenance, repair, rehabilitation or replacement. The provision of routine maintenance and rehabilitation of these facilities is necessary to reduce the need for a more expensive replacement, which causes economic disruption, inconvenience, and dangers to public health and safety. However, newer designs, standards, and technology available when purchasing new capital items may reduce future maintenance or repair costs or more readily provide the necessary standard, i.e. Haz-Mat equipment.

Many facilities will need upgrades to meet future demands. The future demand for water, with predictions by the City of Florence Water Department, is doubled by 2040. Likewise, sewerage facility usage will also increase significantly.

There may be a need to include the provision of public facilities in zoning, subdivision and other land use administration as a way to deal with the increased demand of development on public facilities. A capital improvement plan (CIP) would provide the funding for maintaining levels of service via a structured fee system for new developments. While the comprehensive plan identifies the community's current state and its goals and objectives for the future, the capital improvement would address the following subjects:

- guides future facility growth and development;
- leverages taxpayers' dollars through increased funding options;
- increases efficiency and effectiveness of increased services with increased developments;
- fosters a sound and stable financial standing for the community; and
- promotes a community's ability to attract state and federal funding.

Library Facilities

The Florence County Library System is headquartered in the City of Florence at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Library and has five branch libraries located throughout the County. The 82,000 square foot Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Library contains a 35 seat computer lab, a 200-seat meeting room, and public access to 75 internet terminals. The Doctors Bruce and Lee Library also contains a South Carolina history room, which is named in honor of Eugene N. "Nick" Zeigler, local historian, attorney, and former SC legislator. This facility opened in 2005 in part through a generous gift of the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation. The previous Florence County Library building, located at 319 South Irby Street, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

Figure 6-1. The Florence Main Library



Courtesy of Florence County Library System

Additional libraries are found at higher education facilities. Florence-Darlington Technical College includes a library on its main campus and a branch library in the downtown Florence campus. Francis Marion University has a 77,000 square foot library on its campus. Although these collegiate libraries are open to the public, only students with school-specific ID cards can check out materials.

Several libraries in our area have specialties such as the Family History Library at the Florence Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which provides information on

Florence County families and access to the Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Also, the Health Science Library, located at McLeod Health, contains over 500 books and medical journals. It is most often used by the staff of the hospital, but it is open to the public. In addition, the Doctors Bruce and Lee Library, the James A. Rogers Library, and the Francis Marion Library all have South Carolina history sections.

The table below is a listing of all libraries in Florence County, their location, and the approximate number of books and if computers are available.

Table 6-1. County Libraries

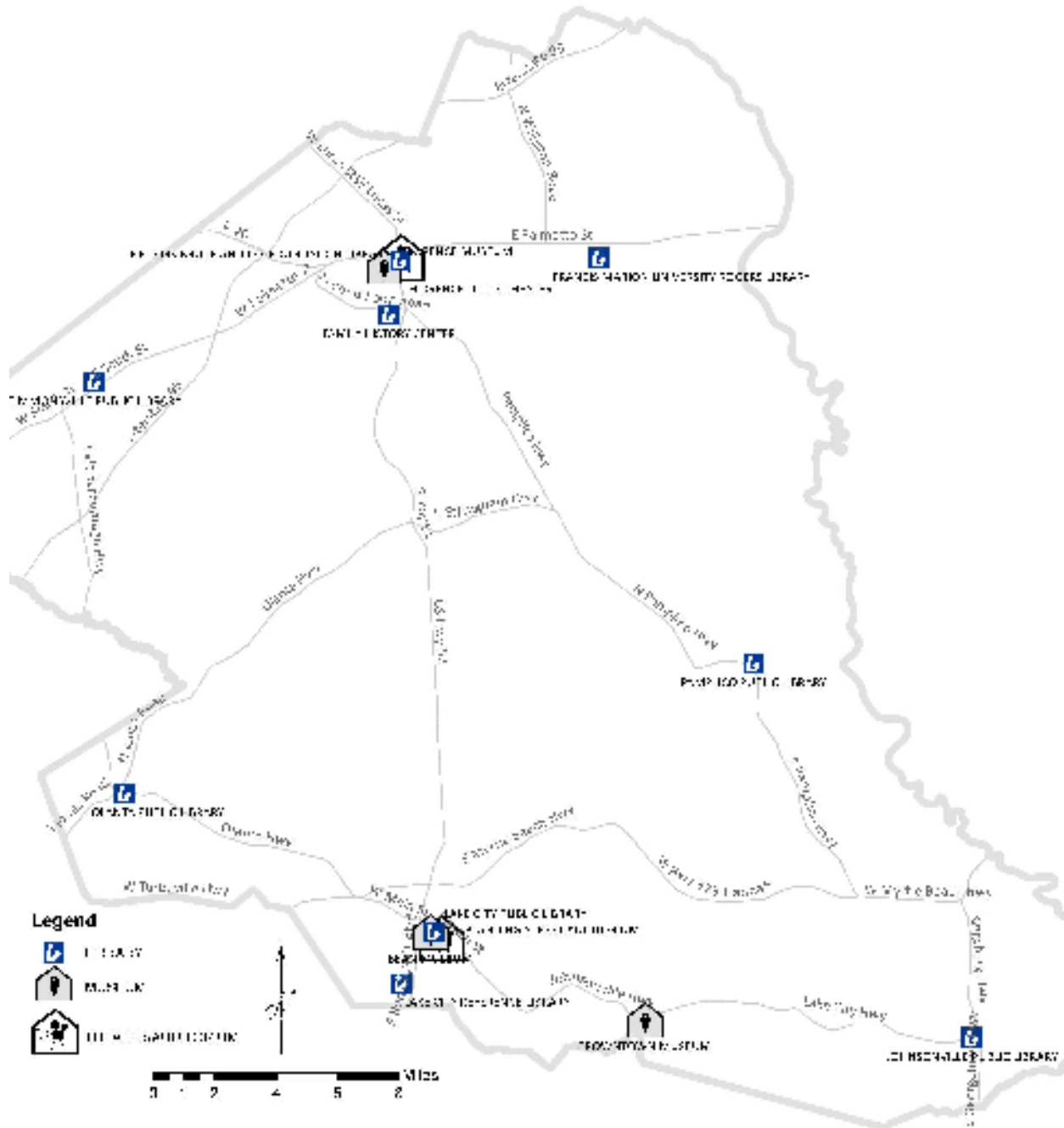
Library	Location	Volumes	Computer Access?
Drs. Bruce & Lee Library	509 S. Dargan St., Florence	300,000	√
Johnsonville Public Library	Marion St. @ Hampton St., Johnsonville	8,000	√
Lake City Public Library	221 E. Main St., Lake City	15,500	√
Olanta Public Library	404 E. Hampton St., Olanta	6,000	√
Pamplico Public Library	180 Main St., Pamplico	10,000	√
Timmonsville Public Library	111 S. Warren St., Timmonsville	12,000	√
Family History Center	600 Maynard Ave., Florence	150	√
Health Sciences Library	McLeod Health	500 books & journals	
James A. Rogers Library	Francis Marion University	400,000	√
Wellman, Inc. Library	Florence Darlington Tech	30,000	√
Segars Library	Florence Darlington Tech Downtown Campus	6,000	√
Lake City Reference Library	Florence Darlington Tech Lake City Campus	100	√

Source: On-location library staff

Funding has been approved by Florence County Council to build new libraries at 252 S. Georgetown Hwy., Johnsonville, 210 E. Hampton St., Olanta, and 298 W. Smith St., Timmonsville. Currently there are no libraries in the municipalities of Coward, Scranton, and Quinby.

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Figure 6-2. Locations of Museums, Libraries and Theaters



Museums

Florence County’s vast cultural diversity and enthusiastic support of the fine arts are represented in an impressive series of museums, theaters, and a variety of performance venues.

The War Between the States Museum

According to the War Between the States Museum website, you can “take a walk into the past and visit and experience the many artifacts, pictures and stories of a nation divided.” This

museum was founded in September 1988 by members of the Pee Dee Rifles and Sons of Confederate Veterans who possess Civil War artifacts to share with the public. In September 1989, the museum moved to its present location at 107 South Guerry Street in Florence. This was the boyhood home of one of the founding members and was donated as the location of the museum.

Railroad Museum

The Railroad Museum consists of a restored caboose and boxcar filled with railroad memorabilia. This museum is located on Railroad Street adjacent to the Florence City-County Complex and is operated by the Florence Museum.

The Browntown Museum

The Browntown Museum is located on Highway 341 between Lake City and Johnsonville. The museum display pioneering ingenuity and farm-related industry including a notable cotton gin with wooden gears, which continued operating through the late 19th century. The site also contains a corn crib, smokehouse, outhouse, and the Brown-Burrows Home, built about 1845.

The origin of Browntown can be traced to two brothers, Robert Brown (1784-1866) and William Brown (1775-1850), and their families. Their holdings comprised over 8,000 acres. The museum, which was erected by Three Rivers Historical Society in 1982, was added to the National Register of Historical Places on June 28, 1982.

Figure 6-3. Browntown Museum



Staff photo: March 29, 2007

The National Bean Market Museum

Located at 111 Henry St., Lake City and built in 1936, this thriving market became the largest truck auction bean market in the world. The museum includes exhibits and displays depicting early farm life in the Pee Dee area. The site includes a pole tobacco barn, market area and Agricultural center. Source: www.lakecitysc.org

The market has local produce available during the summer months and hosts a Holiday Market the first weekend of December. The building is on the National Register of Historic places. Funds have been awarded for major renovations that will take place in 2009.

The Florence Museum of Art, Science, and History

Founded in 1924 and incorporated in 1936, the Florence Museum of Art, Science and History “was established to promote the arts and sciences: to collect, to preserve, and to exhibit objects of historic, artistic, and scientific interest; as a cultural resource for the Pee Dee area”.

In 1953, it was relocated to 558 Spruce Street, adjacent to Timrod Park, where it is currently located. Prior to this relocation, it was housed in the Florence County Public Library. Efforts are being made to again move the museum downtown as part of the revitalization plan and have the County take over operations.

In the last decade, the museum has acquired three original pieces of work by the world-renowned African American artist William H. Johnson, a Florence native who was born on Cox Street in 1901.

Figure 6-4. The Florence Museum of Art, Science and History



Staff photo: January 5, 2007

Civic, Arts and Market Venues

Florence Civic Center

The Florence Civic center opened in 1993 and is the largest indoor venue for entertainment, conventions and civic events in the Pee Dee. The building’s 50,000 square feet of multipurpose space is the largest exhibition facility in northeast South Carolina. It includes a 10,000 seat arena, 14,500 square foot Exhibit Hall and the Pee Dee, Waccamaw and Santee meeting Rooms. The civic center is positioned near the I-95 and I-20 interchange, an easy to access location across from the Magnolia Mall and co-located with hotels and restaurants.

The facility is home to the Florence Symphony Orchestra. The center also hosts a variety of entertainment from Disney on Ice to the SC Governor’s Rural Summit.

www.florenceciviccenter.com

Figure 6-5. Florence Civic Center



Back Swamp School

This School House is located north of the intersection of TV Road and Pocket Road where it is utilized as a community center under the care of the Back Swamp School Trust. The building can accommodate about one hundred people. Future plans for this community center include installation of kitchen facilities.

The original Back Swamp School House was built in 1843 by John Rogers and used as a school for his children. In 1921 a new building was constructed to serve the community’s needs replacing the original school house. In 1950 the school was consolidated with the city schools of Florence and this property was later deeded to the Back Swamp School Trust and may be reserved by public groups. Source: Back Swamp School Trust

Artisan Center

The Artisan Center is located in downtown City of Florence in the old Kimbrell’s Furniture Store building at the corner of W. Evans and Dargan Streets. The 17,000 square foot facility will display the crafts of local artists while accommodating work studios and a retail area.

Florence Little Theatre

Florence Little Theatre’s new facility opened September 2008 and is no less than state-of-the-art. The 35,000 square foot facility seats approximately 396 persons and is located on South Dargan Street between Pine and Elm Streets. This cultural facility is only one of many efforts that will aid in the revitalization of downtown Florence and bring us high caliber productions at the same time.

Figure 6-6. Florence Little Theater



Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center

The Francis Marion University Center for Performing Arts should begin construction in 2009 and is estimated to cost around \$17 million. It will be located on 3.93 acres of land at the corner of Dargan and West Palmetto Streets. The building is estimated to be 52,000 square feet. A multipurpose theatre will provide seating for 750 persons while the experimental theatre will seat 100 persons. The facility will be used for performances, programs and exhibits while also including instructional space. The center will prove to be a great benefit to the economic development of Florence and the cultural society.

Lake City Community Theatre

This community theatre group presents a full length musical production each year in March at the Blanding Street Auditorium, located at 125 S. Blanding Street, Lake City.

Pee Dee State Farmers Market

The Pee Dee Farmers Market is located at 2513 W. Lucas Street and offers fresh fruits and vegetables including a large selection of plants and flowers. A 100-year old barn houses a pecan kitchen, potter's shop, and café. A 45,000 sq ft drive through open air market allows for convenient shopping. Currently, a new climate-controlled building is being developed that will house more retail business especially during the winter. More buildings, including an 'expo' center and additional climate-controlled buildings are being planned.

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Figure 6-7. The Pee Dee State Farmer's Market



The Southern Plant and Flower Festival is held in the spring and fall attracting 40,000 and 25,000 people, respectively, on average. Annually, this market sees more than 300,000 visitors.

Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. This market is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and state holidays.

Eastern Carolina Agriculture Fair

Florence hosts this fair in October yearly at 5226 E. Palmetto St. Rides, food, games, and exhibits, are available to the public.

Senior Services

The Senior Citizens Association in Florence County provides activities, programs and services to enhance the well being of older adults in Florence County. The focus is to provide access to programs to improve the quality of life for individuals 50 years of age and older. Our programming is based on the following wellness concept: intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual, vocational, and social wellness. The Association depends on the members to help plan activities and programs.

There are currently six sites throughout the County where seniors can receive meals and participate in planned activities. The agency also provides transportation to and from the sites listed below:

- Johnsonville Nutrition Site, 304 S. Hampton St., Johnsonville
- Lake City Senior Center, 198 N. Acline St., Lake City
- Leatherman Senior Center, 600 Senior Way, Florence
- Olanta Site, 413 Park Ave, Olanta
- Timmons ville Site, 113 N. Tanyard St., Timmons ville
- Trinity Site, 124 W. Darlington St., Florence

The Association operates the senior centers in partnership with local governments and non-profit organizations including Florence County, Town of Johnsonville and the City of Lake City. Adults aged 50 and older come together for recreational activities that reflect their experience, skills and interest. The Leatherman Senior Center located in Florence is a state-of-the-art, multi-purpose, 15,000 square-foot facility, housing recreational, fitness, socialization, and educational opportunities for our community's senior adults, age 50 and over. The Lake City Senior is a 8,000 square-foot facility and shares the same objectives as the Leatherman Senior Center. source: Linda Johnson www.seniorcitizensassociation.com.

Animal Shelters

The Florence Area Humane Society Animal Shelter (FAHS)

The FAHS is a non-profit organization serving our area in animal cruelty prevention and educating the public regarding pet overpopulation. The current facility is located at 1007 Stockade Drive in Florence. Construction for a new shelter on McCurdy Road near National Cemetery Road is planned to begin in 2009. Adoption hours are Monday through Saturday, 12:00 noon to 5:00PM. They are closed on Wednesday and Sunday.

Florence County Pound

The Florence County Animal Control facility is located on Friendfield Road in Effingham and has served the County for many years. The current building is a 1,800 square foot facility that houses 35 to 40 animals. A new 4,600 square foot building will be constructed in 2009 and will house 150 animals. The new climate controlled facility will have examination and surgical rooms and an area for people to visit the animals. The pound is open from 8:30AM to 5:00PM Monday through Friday.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

Active and passive recreational opportunities are important for maintaining and increasing the quality of life for residents and visitors. County and local parks often play a regular role in city and private sponsored organized sports, family gatherings, social functions, and impromptu visits by local residents. Altogether, Florence County contains more than 1400 acres of park land.

In addition to publicly owned green space, seven golf courses are located in Florence County: The Florence Country Club, The Crossings, Oakdale Country Club, Country Club of South Carolina, and The Traces Golf Club. Lake City Country Club is located in Lake City while The Wellman Club is located in Johnsonville.

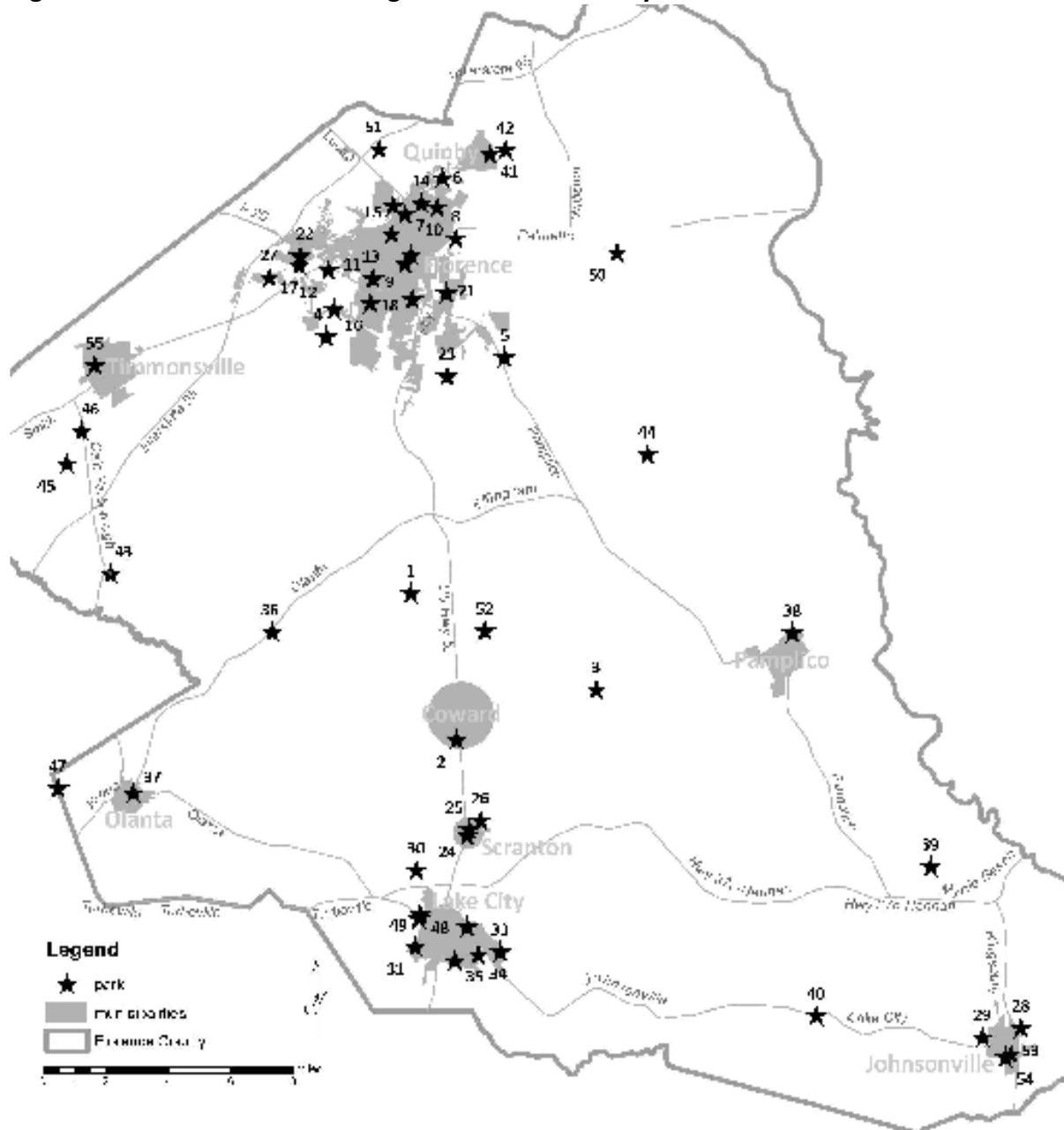
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Table 6-2. Florence County Area Park Facilities

ID	Facility	Location	Size (acres)	Amenities
1	Lynches River County Park	Lynches River, west of US52	676	baseball, playground, fishing, canoeing, nature trails, picnic areas, cabin rentals, tent and RV camping, splash pad, community building, canopy walk, boardwalk, environmental discovery center
2	Coward Park	Coward	10.3	baseball, softball, community building
3	Friendfield	Effingham	3.5	baseball, softball
4	Savannah Grove Athletic Park	Effingham	29	baseball, softball, picnic shelter, basketball, volleyball, walking track, playground
5	Greenwood	Evergreen	25.9	baseball
6	Spaulding Heights	Evergreen	6.5	baseball, basketball, playground
7	Lester Park	Florence	0.9	Skating path, picnic area and shelter, playground
8	Levy Park	Florence	16.9	softball, football, basketball, tennis, community center, playground, picnic area
9	Lucas Park	Florence	12	tennis, nature trails and gardens, playground, picnic area
10	Iola Jones Park	Florence	4.3	basketball, ballfield, playground
11	Jeffries Creek Park	Florence	55.6	nature trails, playgrounds, picnic area, shelter
12	McLeod Park	Florence	51.7	baseball, basketball, horseshoes, nature trails, skateboard, picnic area, shelters, restrooms, concession stands, press boxes
13	Maple Park	Florence	3.1	baseball, tennis, community center, playground
14	Northside Park	Florence	6.5	baseball, swimming pool, bath house, concession stand, restrooms, press box, walking trail
15	Northwest Park	Florence	8.4	ballfield, basketball, tennis, concession stand, restrooms, community center for seniors and children, playground, picnic area, shelter
16	Pettigrew Millpond	Florence	153.7	plans for nature areas and trails, picnic areas
17	Rail Trail	Florence	14	natural and paved trails
18	South Park	Florence	3.8	softball, basketball, tennis, playground, picnic area and shelter, skating path
19	Timrod Park	Florence	18	tennis, picnic areas, fitness course, shelter, gazebo, gardens, interpretive nature trails
20	Friendship Park	Florence	3.4	softball, clubhouse, shelter and picnic area
21	Freedom Florence Recreation Complex	Florence	95.8	baseball, softball, football, soccer, gymnastics center, picnic area and shelters, walking trails, ScienceSouth Pavilion
22	Veterans' Memorial Park	Florence	5.6	walking trails, gardens
23	Tara Village	Florence	7.8	baseball, concession stand
24	Scranton Tennis	Scranton	0.6	tennis
25	Scranton Park	Scranton	3.9	walking trail, playground, pavilion

ID	Facility	Location	Size (acres)	Amenities
26	Weatherford Park	Scranton	12.6	baseball and concession
27	Ebenezer Park	Florence	8.7	softball, tennis, climbing wall, playground, picnic shelter
28	Prosser Field	Johnsonville	16.3	baseball, softball, community building, picnic shelter, playground area
29	Hickory Hill	Johnsonville	1.5	basketball, picnic area
30	Beards Park	Lake City	2.9	softball
31	Kennedy Park	Lake City	5.1	softball, tennis, basketball, picnic area
32	Lions Park	Lake City	6.8	baseball, tennis, picnic area, concession stand
33	Martha Law Park	Lake City	4.2	baseball, picnic area
34	Wrenn Village Park	Lake City	3.9	baseball
35	South Blanding St.	Lake City	12.8	baseball
36	Oak Grove	Oak Grove	6	baseball, concession stand
37	Olanta Athletic Park	Olanta	6	baseball, softball
38	Lavern Ard Park	Pamplico	12.9	baseball, picnic shelter, playground area, and community building
39	St. Luke	Pamplico	5.1	softball, picnic shelter
40	Prospect	Prospect	3.4	softball field, community building
41	Quinby Recreation Complex	Quinby	9.6	tennis, soccer, swimming pool, playground, covered picnic area
42	Francis Marion Athletic Complex	Quinby	9.7	baseball, community building, picnic shelter, playground
43	Sardis	Sardis	3.5	baseball, concession stand
44	Willow Creek	Scranton	4.8	baseball, concession stand
45	Piney Grove Park	Timmonsville	1	playground, picnic shelter
46	403 Athletic Park	Timmonsville	22.3	baseball, softball, community building, picnic shelter, playground
47	Woods Bay State Park	Olanta	1,590	fishing, canoeing, nature trails (Note: 32 acres of this park are located within Florence County)
48	Ron McNair Memorial Park	Lake City	16.8	gardens, walking trails
49	Lake City Community Park	Lake City	6.5	picnic shelter, playground, fishing deck, walking trail
50	Mars Bluff Park	Florence	3.5	running track
51	Brooks McCall Park	Florence	10	open space
52	Sugar Hill	Coward	19	baseball
53	Johnsonville Recreation Park	Johnsonville	10.8	picnic shelter, meeting hall, playground, open space
54	Johnsonville Tennis Complex	Johnsonville	3	tennis
55	Edgar Simon Memorial Park	Timmonsville	2.2	playground, open space
TOTAL			1461 acres	<i>(1,558 acres of Woods Bay, 47, are located in Sumter County)</i>

Figure 6-8. Park Locations Throughout Florence County



Rail Trail

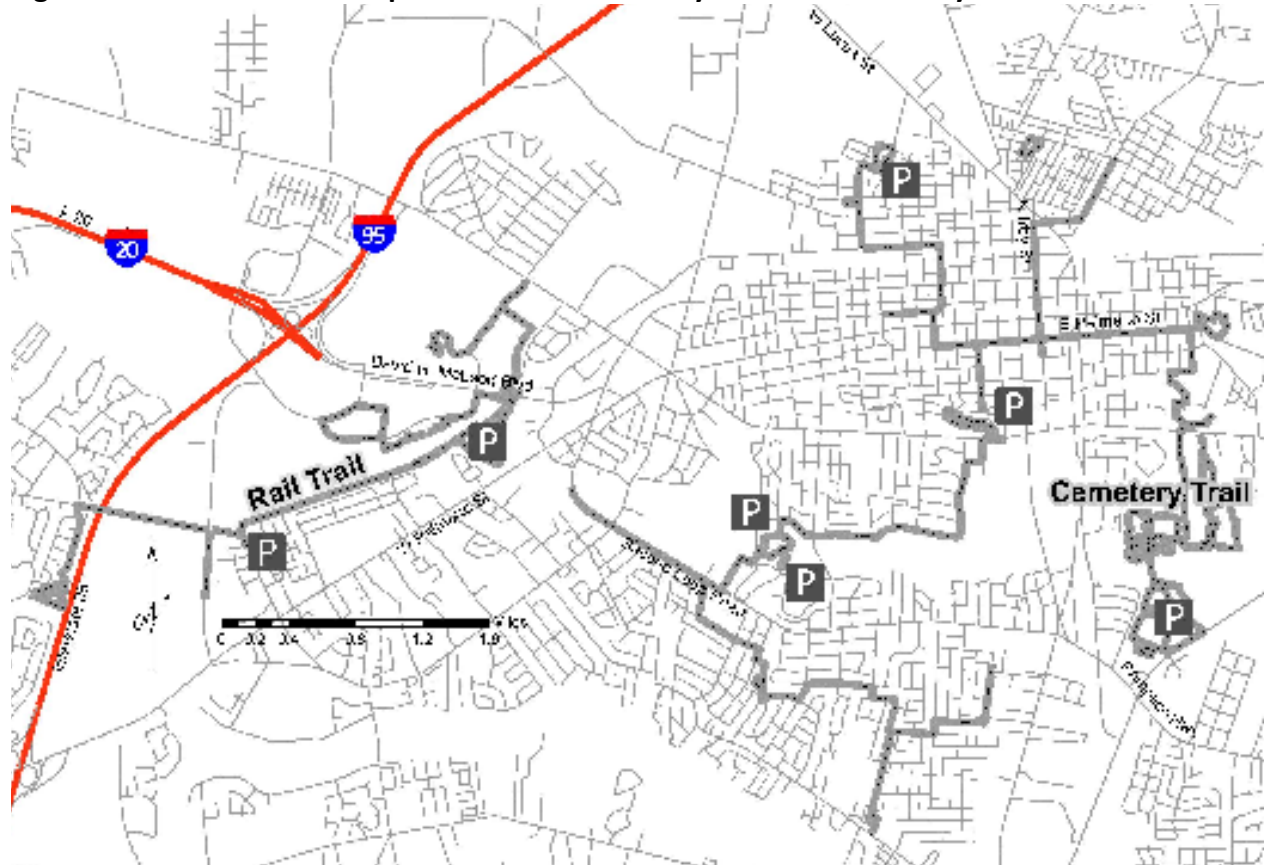
The City of Florence includes an extensive trail system. The Rail Trail is about 10 miles of improved and paved surfaces along an abandoned rail corridor in West Florence. It can be accessed from several points along the trail. Two parking areas located at Old Ebenezer Road and at McLeod Fitness Center provide easy trail access. Future plans include expanding the Rail Trail to further enhance the connectivity in the Florence area.

Figure 6-9. Florence Rail



Picture courtesy of <http://www.sciway3.net/outdoors/park-florencerailtrail.html>

Figure 6-10. Current and Proposed Extent of the City of Florence Trail System



Note: car parking is shown as 'P'

Francis Marion Trail

The Francis Marion Trails Commission was created in 2005 to plan and implement a heritage tourism trail. The trail would center on the life and campaigns of General Francis Marion. Its mission is to reveal, preserve, develop, and promote in a sustainable way the authentic sites where Francis Marion lived and fought during the Revolutionary War.

The Francis Marion Trail (FMT) will encompass ten counties in South Carolina. These are Florence, Horry, Georgetown, Berkeley, Clarendon, Williamsburg, Marion, Sumter, Colleton, and Charleston. The FMT is envisioned to be a network of sites accessible by automobile, with the eventual possibility of incorporating some sites by walking trail or bicycle.

The planning part of the project has been completed and now the commission can move on to the actual development of the Francis Marion Trail. Fifteen Marion sites have been identified. Other sites will be excavated as they are found.

Clemson University Outdoor Education Trail

Located at the Clemson University's Pee Dee Research and Education Center, this trail straddles Florence and Darlington Counties. The education trail is 1.5 miles of interactive educational kiosks and interactive demonstrations with emphasis on our regions natural resources and the importance of resource conservation.

River Access

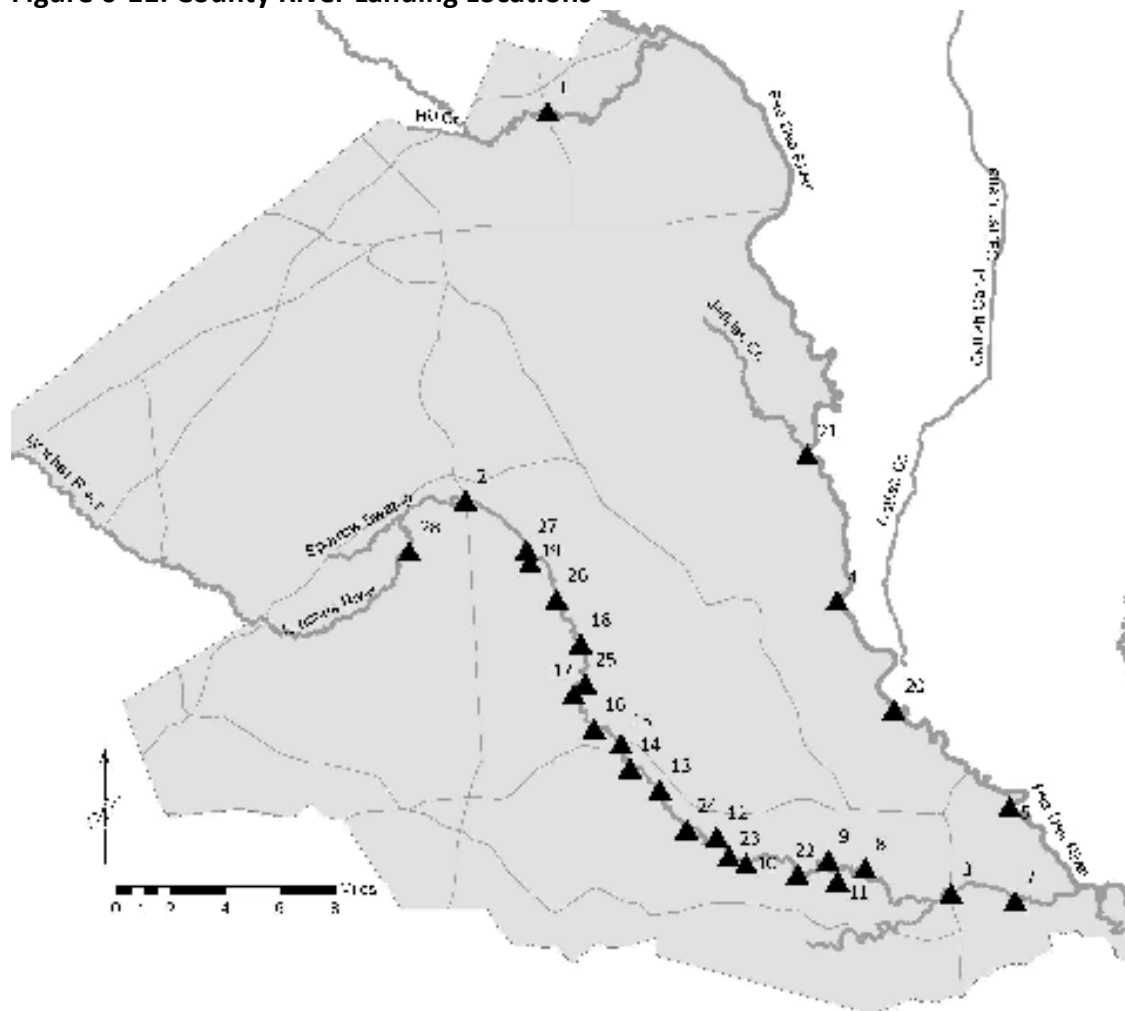
Florence County has two major river systems: the Great Pee Dee River and the Lynches River. Both are designated by the State Department of Natural Resources as State Scenic Rivers. The designated area on the Great Pee Dee is from the Highway 378 bridge towards Georgetown. The Lynches River designation stretches from Lee County to the eastern boundary of Lynches River Park, located in Florence County.

Numerous river landings in Florence County provide access to miles of scenic waterways. Florence County has a maintenance agreement with the Department of Natural Resources for seven (designated with an asterisk, *) of the following boat landings:

1. SC Highway 327 Boat Ramp on Black Creek*
2. US Highway 52 Boat Ramp on Lynches River (New Hope)*
3. Odell Venters on Lynches River (Witherspoon's Ferry)*
4. Bluff Road on the Great Pee Dee River (Dewitt's Landing)*
5. Allison Landing on the Great Pee Dee River (Ellison's or Poston Landing)*
6. Mill Branch Road (Red Bluff) on the Great Pee Dee River
7. Persimmon Bluff on Lynches River
8. Glen's Bluff (Ginn's Bluff) on Lynches River
9. Bartell Landing on Lynches River
10. N. Pitch Landing (Pitt's) on Lynches River
11. Mack's Lake on Lynches River
12. Sandstone Road Landing (Smith) on Lynches River
13. Riverside Cemetery Road (River Rest) is located on Lynches River

14. Lee Landing on Lynches River
15. Wicklow Road (Bass Bridge) on Lynches River
16. Courtney Point on Lynches River
17. Cockfield Landing on Lynches River
18. Farrell Drive (Anderson Bridge) on Lynches River
19. Jeffords Road (High Bank) located on Lynches River (High Bank)
20. Bostick's Landing on Great Pee Dee River*
21. Pine Bluff Road(Poston Landing) on the Great Pee Dee River
22. Jimmy Road (Half Moon) Landing Road on Lynches River*
23. New Landing Road on Lynches River
24. Bennie Landing Road on Lynches River
25. Indigo Landing Road on Lynches River
26. Bunk Road on Lynches River
27. Catfish Road on Lynches River
28. Syrup Mill Road (Buster Lynch Landing)
29. Eddy Landing Road on Lynches River

Figure 6-11. County River Landing Locations



Education Facilities

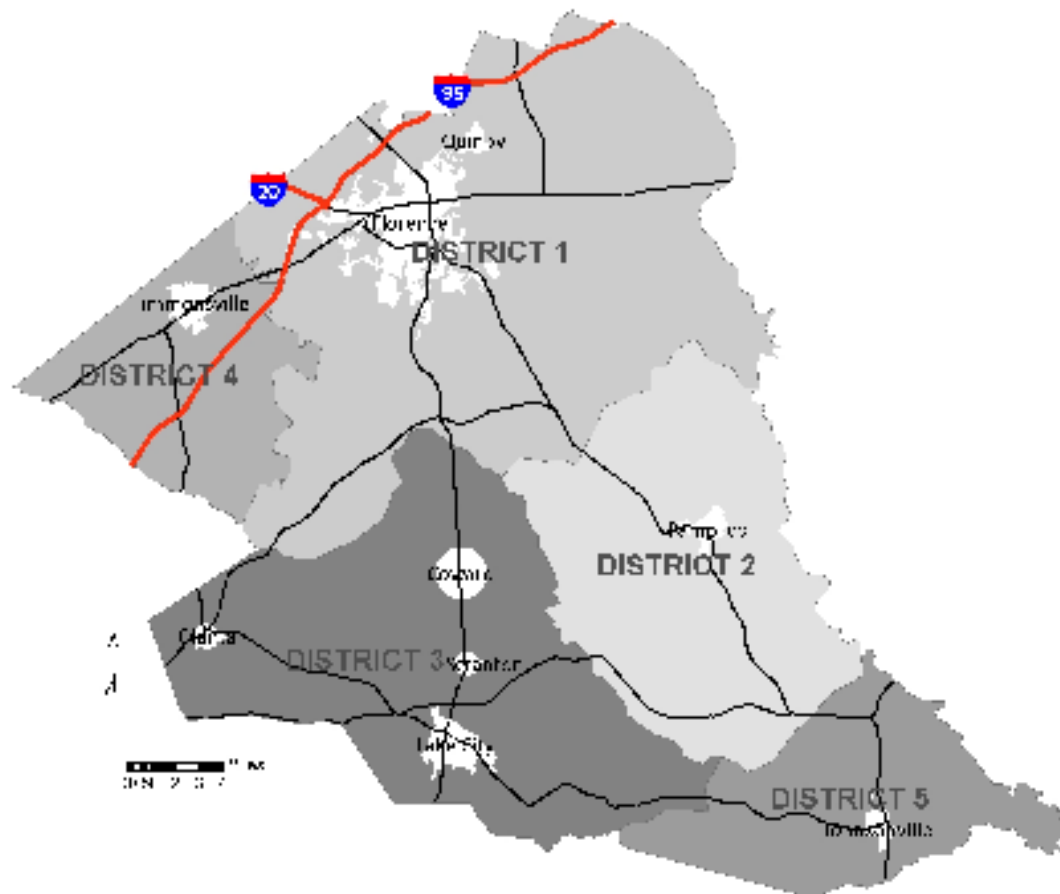
Florence County Schools have been accredited by South Carolina Independent School Administration, South Carolina State Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Florence County includes public and private schools. Five public school districts comprise the Florence County Public School System. Table 6-3 reflects student, administration, and teacher statistics by district for 2006-2007.

Table 6-3. School Statistics by District 2006-2007

School District	Total Administration	Total Staff	Total Teachers	Administration and Staff per Teacher	Total Students	Students per Teacher
One	85	1287	1202	1.1	14,905	12.4
Two	5	96	91	1.1	1,174	12.9
Three	27	305	278	1.2	3,625	13.1
Four	9	102	93	1.2	973	10.5
Five	10	118	108	1.2	1,442	13.4
Total	136	1908	1772	1.2	22,119	12.5

The following map shows the boundaries of each School District and its respective district number. A summary of each District's facilities follows the countywide map.

Figure 6-12. Florence Public School District Geography



Florence County School District One

Florence County School District One is the largest of the five districts in land area and student population and serves the City of Florence and the Town of Quinby. School locations and enrollment figures for elementary, middle, high and private schools located in District One are given in the following map and table, respectively.

Figure 6-13. Schools located within Florence School District One.

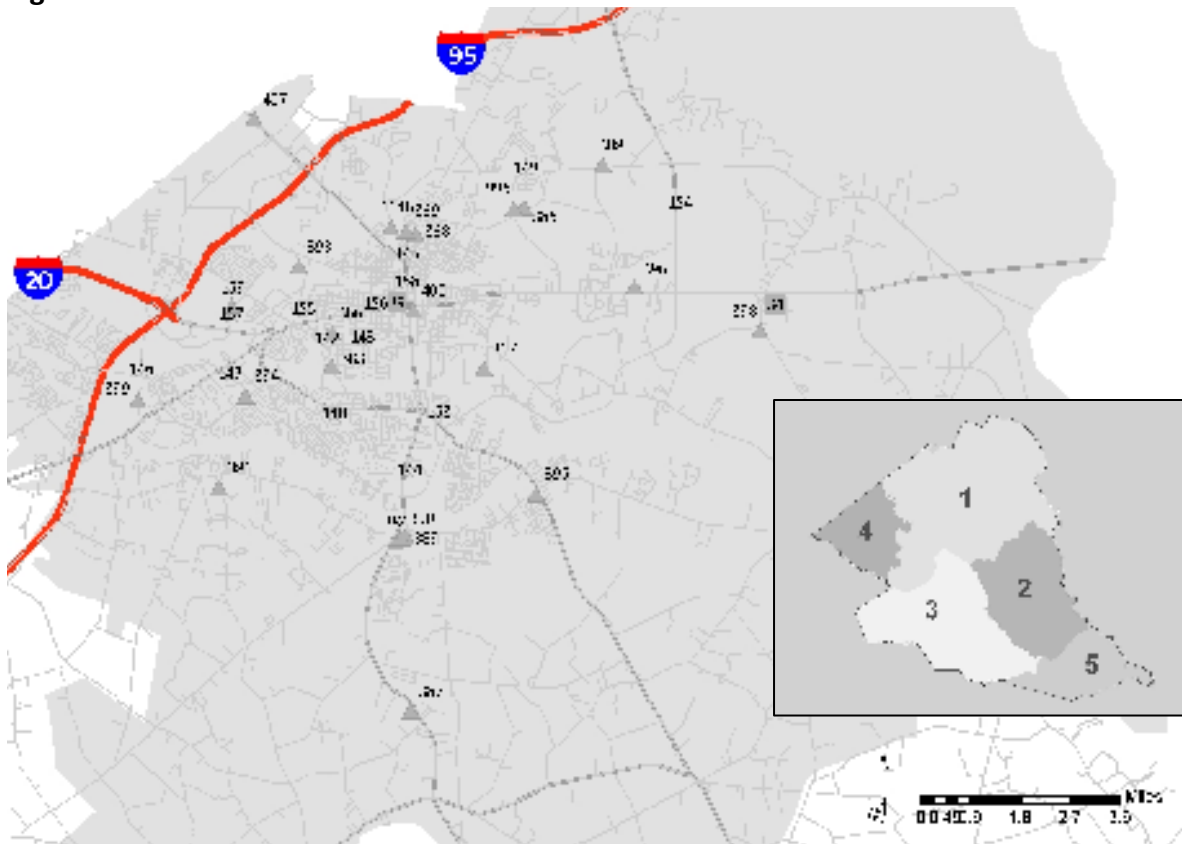


Table 6-4. Florence School District One Enrollment, 2002-2007.

Map ID	School	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	Capacity
385	Briggs Elementary	499	517	509	534	638	500
393	Carver Elementary	682	739	776	808	824	800
394	Delmae Elementary	625	642	668	717	776	700
387	Dewey Carter Elementary	669	657	676	708	701	695
395	Greenwood Elementary	688	675	656	719	675	665
367	McLaurin Elementary	439	479	413	470	471	680
383	Moore Intermediate	796	776	714	711	618	1000
368	North Vista Elementary	560	511	528	558	560	530
1146	Palmetto Youth Charter	---	---	---	65	70	---
366	Royall Elementary	486	495	577	617	671	600

Map ID	School	02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	Capacity
386	Savannah Grove Elementary	671	693	740	741	745	750
396	Theodore Lester Elementary	466	444	429	404	402	550
388	Timrod Elementary	406	412	396	399	388	500
398	Wallace Gregg Elementary	335	321	322	335	357	500
	Elementary School Totals	7322	7361	7404	7786	7896	8470
399	Henry L. Sneed Middle	827	824	867	866	903	800
389	Southside Middle	900	901	969	881	842	900
369	Williams Middle	698	705	720	720	694	830
	Middle School Totals	2425	2430	2556	2467	2439	2530
384	South Florence High	1464	1522	1466	1561	1563	1950
397	West Florence High	1403	1533	1539	1599	1669	1800
995	Wilson High	1237	1268	1287	1299	1338	1800
	High School Totals	4104	4323	4292	4459	4570	5550
	District One Totals	13,851	14,114	14,252	14,712	14,905	16,550
142	All Saints Episcopal Day School					415	
143	Calvary Baptist Kindergarten					100	
153	Christian Assembly School					150	
146	Ebenezer Baptist Kindergarten					75	
144	Florence Christian School					750	
154	Florence SDA School					12	
145	Hanna's Learning Lab					35	
148	Highland Park Kindergarten					105	
149	James F. Byrnes Academy					400	
147	Maranatha Christian School					300	
156	Montessori School of Florence					120	
159	St. Anthony Parish School					300	
157	The King's Academy					250	
158	Trinity Baptist Church Kindergarten					45	
344	Center Day School					44	
342	Shiloh Christian Academy					26	
340	Oakland Ave SDA School					14	
	Private School Totals					3068	

Source: Deborah J. Wiggins, Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, August 2008

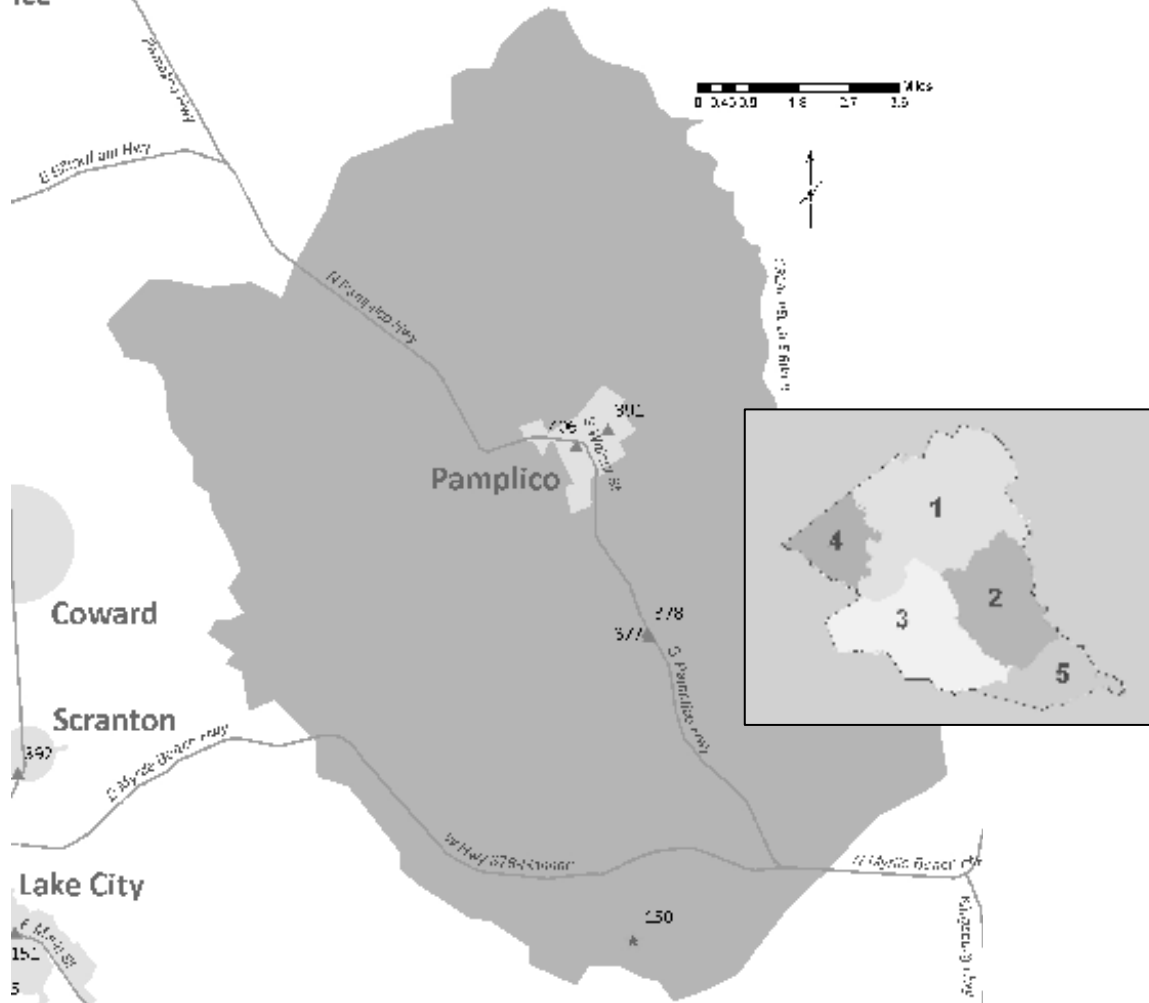
Florence District One owns a total of 27 facilities and two vacant properties. These facilities include fourteen elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, one administration building, Dr. R. M. Beck Center (Carver Community Center), one career center, Poynor School, which serves as a combination of an administration building and adult center, one Parent Learning Center, The James F. Reames, Jr. (Clinical Day Center) and a warehouse. The two parcels consist of forty acres located along Highway 327, and 55 acres identified as the Josey property.

Florence School District One also leases a house at 612 S. Coit Street for their Still Acquiring Independent Life Skills (SAILS) Program.

Florence County School District Two

Florence County School District Two serves the Towns of Pamplico and Hannah. District Two includes Hannah-Pamplico High School and Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School. The District Two office is located between these two schools.

Figure 6-14. Schools located within Florence School District Two.



A table of the enrollment for five years for each of the schools is given below.

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Table 6-5. Florence School District Two Enrollment, 2002-2007.

	School	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
391/ 406	Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle	823	779	819	819	808
377/ 378	Hannah-Pamplico High/ Technical Preparation and Occupational Education Dept.	311	324	332	342	366
150	New Prospect Christian School (private)					169
	District Totals	1134	1103	1151	1161	1174

Source: Deborah J. Wiggins, Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, August 2008

Hannah-Pamplico Elementary School/Middle School is a 146,700 sq. ft. facility constructed in 2000 and has attendance of over 800 students. Future plans include adding four rooms for special needs children. The previous middle school now houses the Therapeutic Behavioral Services Program. A media center and administrative offices were recently added to Hannah-Pamplico High School. Plans exist for the addition of two computer assisted classrooms.

Florence County School District Three

Florence County School District Three serves Lake City, the Towns of Coward, Scranton and Olanta.

Figure 6-15. Schools Located within Florence School District Three.

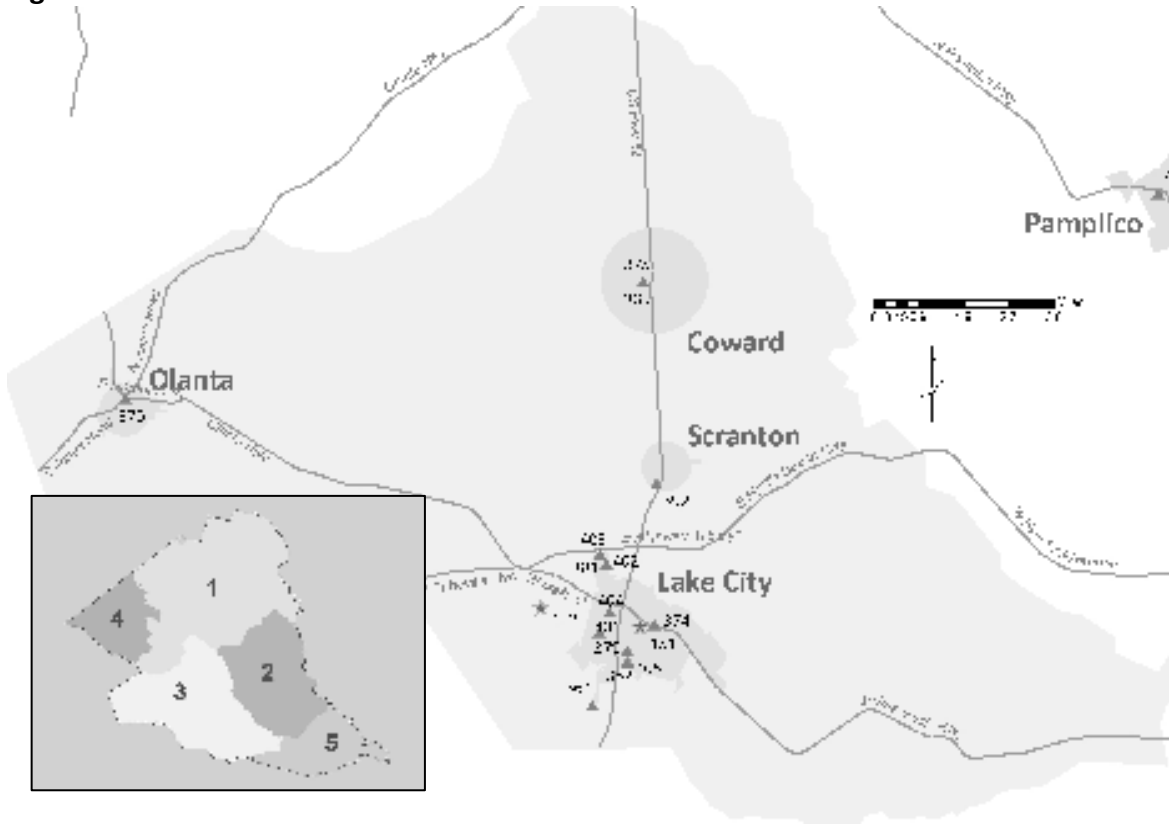


Table 6-6. Florence School District Three Enrollment, 2002-2007.

Map ID	School	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
401	Ronald E. McNair Middle	554	495	502	460	473
402	Lake City High	1198	1169	1099	1087	993
403	Lake City Elementary	585	569	463	455	431
374	Main Street Elementary	452	456	466	470	443
404	J. Paul Truluck Middle	375	398	408	415	404
365/ 375	J. C. Lynch Elementary	313	319	341	335	355
376	Olanta Elementary	204	211	201	192	195
392	Scranton Elementary	271	251	280	313	331
152	Carolina Academy (private)					285
	District Totals	3952	3868	3760	3727	3625

Source: Deborah J. Wiggins, Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, August 2008

Florence County School District Four

Florence County School District Four serves the Town of Timmonsville and the Sardis and Cartersville Townships. In 2000, the District built a new K-12 educational complex consolidating four older schools.

Figure 6-16. Schools Located within Florence School District Four.

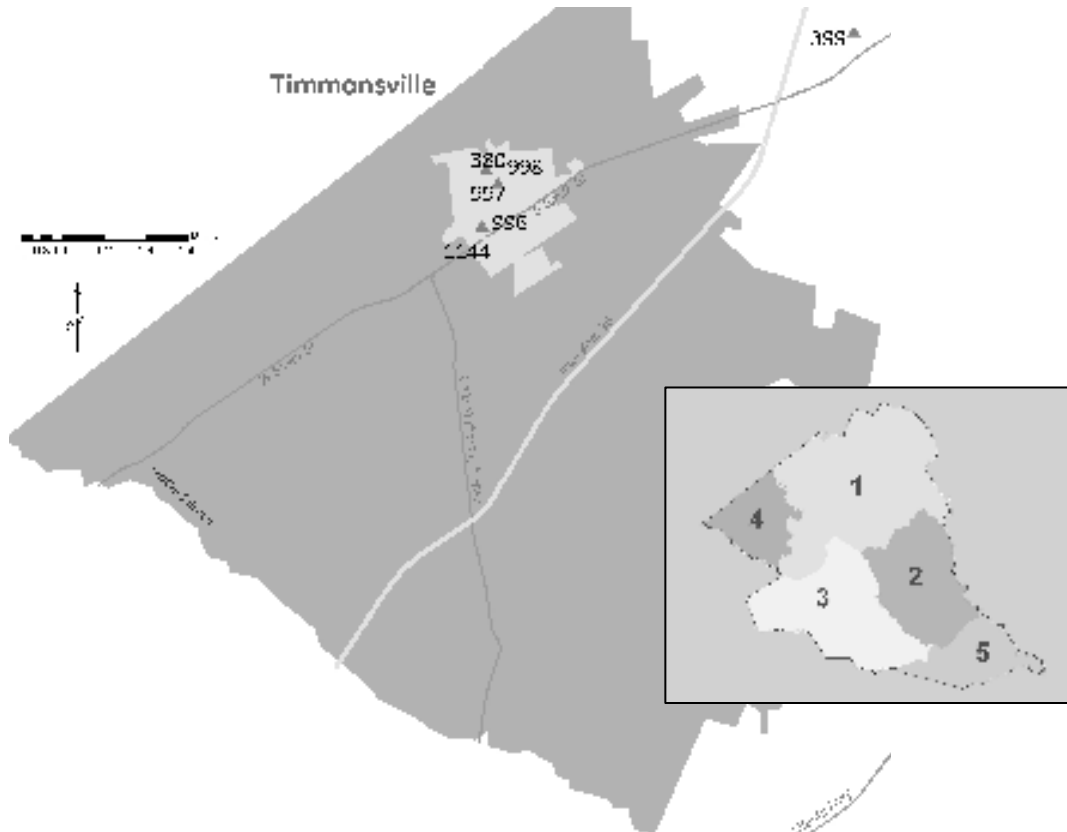


Table 6-7. Florence School District Four Enrollment, 2002-2007.

Map ID	School	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
380	North Brockington Elementary	482	475	457	433	443
997	Johnson Middle School	260	237	245	251	240
996	Timmonsville High School	330	331	336	313	290
	District Totals	1072	1043	1038	997	973

Source: Deborah J. Wiggins, Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, August 2008

Florence County School District Five

Florence County School District Five educates the children of the City of Johnsonville, Vox, Prospect, and Kingsburg communities. Johnsonville’s High School Vocational Center was built in August 1998. A 14,500 sq. ft. primary elementary school was also built at this time. A science wing was added to the High School in December 2003 and in December 2005, a 4,775 sq. ft. addition was added to the cafeteria. Florence School District Five Campus Health Center was completed in January 2008.

Figure 6-17. Schools Located within Florence School District Five.

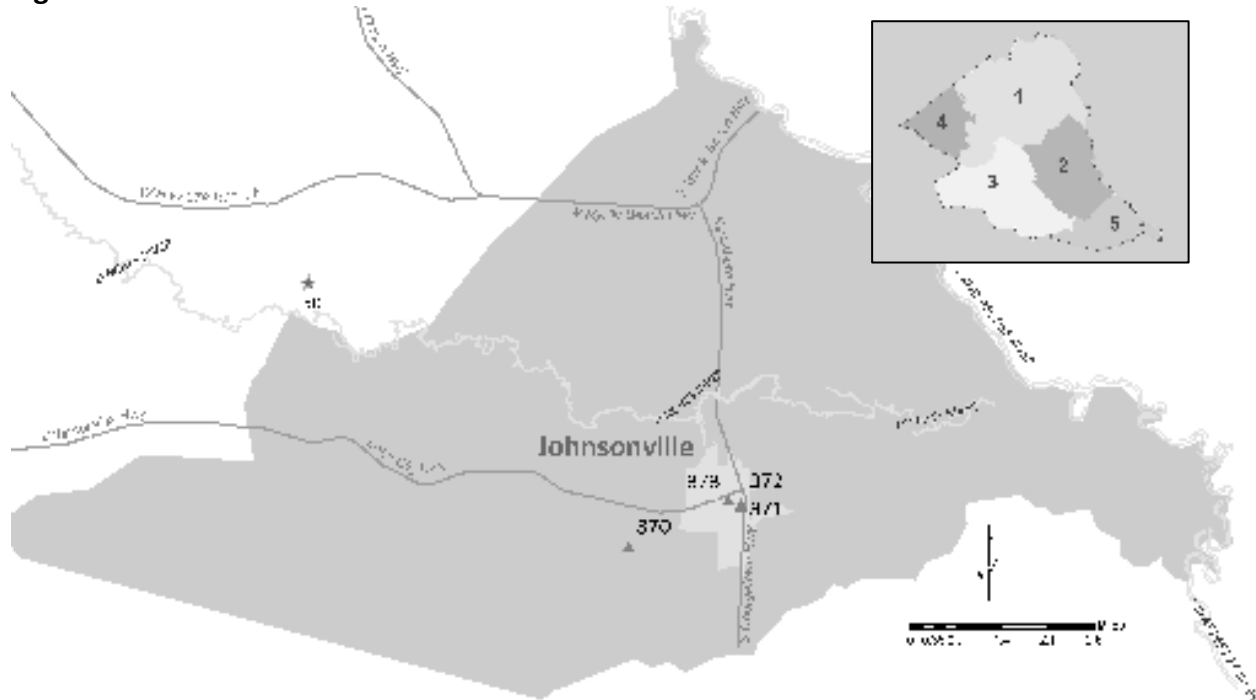


Table 6-8. Florence School District Five Enrollment, 2002-2007.

Map ID	School	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
373	Johnsonville Elementary	539	548	554	538	565
370	Johnsonville Middle	500	472	463	450	429
371	Johnsonville High School	420	435	438	436	448
	District Totals	1459	1455	1455	1424	1442

Source: Deborah J. Wiggins, Data Management and Analysis, South Carolina Department of Education, August 2008

Figure 6-18. Francis Marion University



Francis Marion University

Francis Marion University is a four year college with one of the most diverse student bodies in the South and enrolls nearly 4,000 students. They offer undergraduate and graduate degrees in over 30 areas of study. Their visual art and art education program is one of seven colleges in the country accredited by the National Association of Art and Design (NASAD). The School of Business is fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and was named by the Princeton Review as one of the “Best 237 Business Schools.”

In 2006-2007, there were 216 professors of which 173 were full time. All faculty hold advanced degrees and 84% of the full time faculty hold doctoral or terminal degrees. The student – faculty ratio is 16 to 1, and the overall class size is 20. The average age of undergraduates is 22, while the average age of graduate students is 36.

Table 6-9. Francis Marion University Enrollment, 2004-2007

Total enrollment	3,567
Undergraduate enrollment	2,793
Percent of undergraduate enrollment by gender	
Men	39%
Women	61%
Percent of undergraduate enrollment by race/ethnicity	
Non-resident alien	0%
Black non-Hispanic	30%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1%
Hispanic	1%
White non-Hispanic	65%

Information provided by the National Center for Education Statistics and the Carnegie Foundation.

Florence-Darlington Technical College

Florence-Darlington Technical College is a two year school that offers quality education in more than 75 fields of study. Among the special services and programs at the main campus are the ESAB School of Welding and Cutting, the Advanced Welding and Cutting Center, the Caterpillar Dealer Academy, and a Cisco Systems Training Laboratory. Several degree programs are offered entirely online. Source: www.fcedp.com

2004-2007 Enrollment

Table 6-10. Florence - Darlington Technical College Enrollment, 2004-2007.

Total enrollment	3,814
Undergraduate enrollment	3,814
Percent of undergraduate enrollment by gender	
Men	32%
Women	68%
Percent of undergraduate enrollment by race/ethnicity	
Non-resident alien	0%
Black non-Hispanic	44%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1%
Hispanic	0%
White non-Hispanic	54%

Information provided by the National Center for Education Statistics and the Carnegie Foundation.

Figure 6-19. Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing & Technology



Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology (SiMT)

Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology (SiMT) is located at 1951 Pisgah Rd at the Florence Darlington Technical College. SiMT provides customers with strategic training and

manufacturing technology solutions that maximize workforce productivity in advanced manufacturing environments.

They offer a variety of training in manufacturing areas (including quality, machining, rapid prototyping, fluid power, robotics, electronics, maintenance, and programmable logic controls), health, safety, computing, networking, environmental, biotechnology, business, management, supervision, and more. (Source www.simt.com/aboutus.asp)

Telecommunications

Florence County has an extensive service of fiber optic cable and Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) offered by AT&T and Time Warner Cable of SC. Broadband data and e-commerce services are available to business customers in many areas while web hosting and other internet services are also offered.

Cellular phone services are provided by many national systems including AT&T, Sprint PCS, T-Mobile and Verizon.

Media Outlets

Florence County offers several options to the community for community news and happenings. These services include print, radio broadcasting and TV broadcasting. Categorized below are the media choices available:

Print

The following newsprint mediums are distributed: Community News, The Morning News, The News Journal, The Greater Pee Dee Business Journal, Lake City News and Post, The weekly Observer, The Shopper, She Magazine.

TV Broadcasting

The following television signals are available: WBTW News 13-(CBS), WPDE TV 15-(ABC), WWMB-TV 21, WFXB Fox 43 and Channel 11 Government Access Channel.

Radio Broadcasting

Cumulus Broadcasting

WYNN, WBZF, WCMG, WHLZ, WMXT and WWFN

Miller Communications

STAR 93.7, WICI 94.7 and WWKT 99.3

Quantum Communications

WDAR-FM Sunny 105.5, WEGX-FX Eagle 92.9, WJMX-FM 103-X, WJMX-AM News/Talk 970, WZTF-FM 102.9, WGSS-FM 94.1, WWRK-AM 1400 and WDSC-AM 800

Transportation

This component of the county facilities section surveys the specific transportation resources available in Florence County. Transportation classifications include transit, residential traffic, commercial bus lines, emergency and service vehicles, railroads, airlines and freight.

The Transportation Element is a recently legislated addition to the County Comprehensive Plan that will focus on transportation more specifically. This element will include transportation facilities, major road improvements, new road construction, and transit projects. It will also address pedestrian and bicycle issues. This element will coordinate with the Land Use Element to ensure transportation efficiency for current and future development.

Both Interstate-20 and Interstate-95 are proximal to the County allowing easy access for residential, visitor and commercial traffic. Four major highways serve as connectors: Highway 76 connects Florence to Chattanooga, Tennessee while Highway 301 spans to Florida. Highway 52 connects to Charleston, South Carolina or Canada to the north. Highway 378 will direct traffic to Columbia, SC. In general, Florence County has 1,491.87 miles of paved roads with almost 90% being two lanes. In addition, there are over 520 miles of unpaved roads.

Transit

The Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority (PDRTA) has actively coordinated transportation services for the Pee Dee region for over 30 years. It was the first RTA in the state of South Carolina and currently services six counties in our area. The PDRTA provides a fixed route bus service for the City of Florence but also offers a fixed route service for the Hartsville-Darlington-Florence commuter, demand response transportation, Paratransit services and the commuter routes for the Pee Dee residents employed on the Grand Strand.

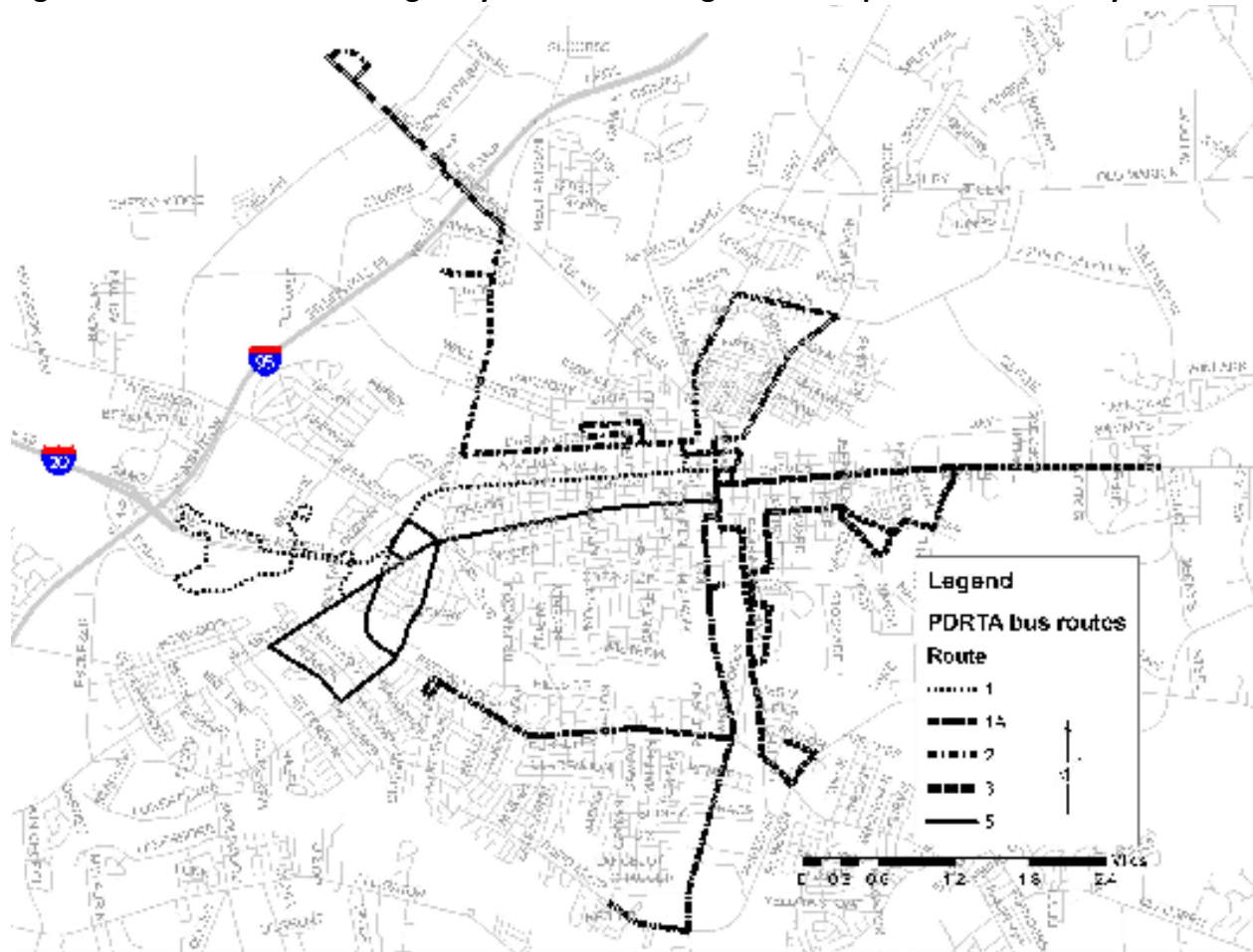
PDRTA's fleet consists of 165 vehicles from transit, intercity buses and trolleys. All vehicles are wheelchair accessible. In PDRTA's last fiscal year, they transported 641,219 passengers for over 5 million miles. Approximately 2,457 people are transported daily.

PDRTA has five fixed routes in the City of Florence, a beach connection to and from Marion and the Grand Strand, and links to Coward, Darlington, Dillon, Effingham, Florence, Hartsville, Lake City, Marion, Mullins and Scranton. Florence Darlington Tech and Francis Marion University are also route destinations. Please visit www.pdrta.org for further route information.

PDRTA provides the majority of funding through fares, contracts and advertising. State and federal grants with local match dollars supply additional financial support.

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Figure 6-20. Bus Routes Managed by the Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority



Rail Service

Florence is home to a major switching yard for CSX railroad and has direct rail service to two major seaports: Charleston, S.C., and Wilmington, N.C.

Amtrak passenger rail, located at 807 E. Day St. offers a connecting service between Florence and the cities of Greenville, Spartanburg, Myrtle Beach, and Columbia, with intermediary stops to Camden and Conway.

Airports

The Florence Regional Airport provides daily commercial connections to major southeastern and international hub airports in Atlanta and Charlotte. They offer daily flights by the Delta Airlines Connection carrier, Atlantic Southeast Airlines to Atlanta, GA (**ATL**); and daily flights on US Airways Express to Charlotte, NC (**CLT**). They also host the annual May Fly Air Show.

In 2008, there were 63,187 plane boardings in Florence, an increase of 35 percent over boardings in 2007.

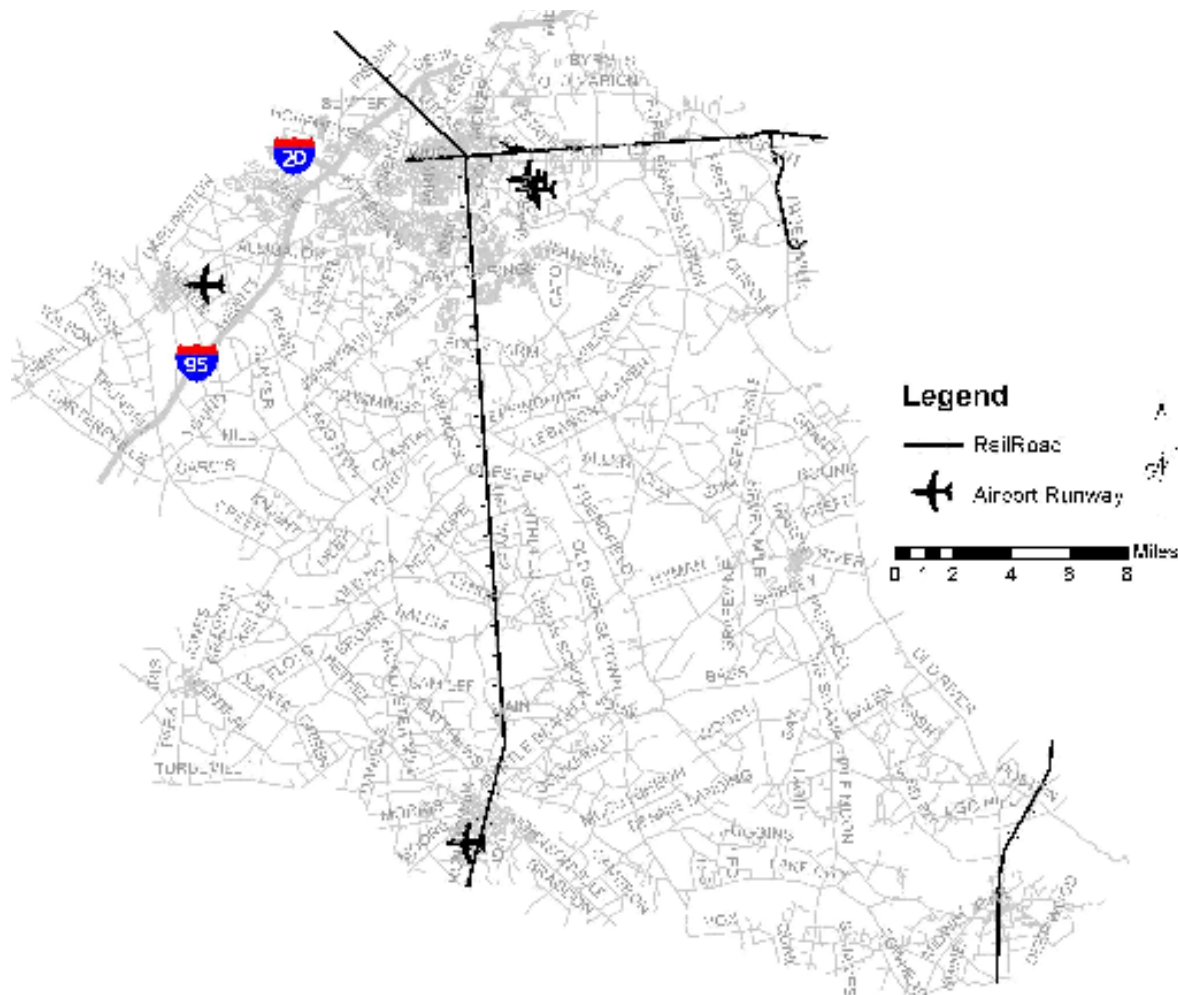
The Florence Regional Airport will begin \$8 million in expansions and renovations in 2009. This will create two additional airplane parking gates for a total of four and will allow for expansion

up to twelve gates. Also included in this project, will be offices on the second floor for airport employees and additional restrooms in the departure lounge.

This construction will not be completed until 2010. Once completed, they will begin working on a new general aviation center for unscheduled flying, including charter planes and pilot training.

Lake City Municipal Airport is located at C.J. Evans field in Lake City and Timmonsville is home to Huggins Memorial Airport at 776 E. Smith St.

Figure 6-21. Locations of Airports and Rail Lines



Public Health and Safety

Departments which protect the health and safety of people in the County are the Emergency Management Department, the Fire Departments, Law Enforcement Departments, and Emergency Medical Services. Hospitals, most of which are private, are also included in this section.

Emergency Preparedness Plan

Community emergencies may be natural or technological (man-made). Florence County is vulnerable to most technological and natural hazards. Government officials, service personnel, and residents must be prepared to cope with and recoup from disasters at any time.

Technological hazards are man-made. Hazardous materials exposure, explosions, airplane crashes, building fires, and terrorist attacks comprise a portion of the technological disasters to which Florence residents are subject. The following text describes how different entities deal with hazardous situations according to the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD):

Hazardous materials are substances or materials that may pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property, or that may be harmful to humans, animals, crops, water systems, or other elements of the environment if accidentally released. Such substances may include explosives, radioactive materials, etiologic [disease causing] agents, flammable liquids or solids, combustible liquids or solids, poisons, oxidizing or corrosive materials, and flammable gases.

Hazardous materials pose a potential risk for every person in South Carolina, although those who live or work close to chemical plants, nuclear plants or major highways have an increased susceptibility to incidents. Most incidents do not occur at fixed facilities but occur during transport.

Before 1986, no mandatory hazardous materials program existed nationally, nor were there comprehensive state and local programs in more than a few locations in the United States to deal with chemical accidents. In 1984, a cloud of extremely toxic chemical escaped from a plant in Bhopal, India, killing thousands of people. Soon after Bhopal, a similar but much less serious chemical release occurred in West Virginia. These incidents led to the 1986 passage of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA), Title III, Emergency Planning and Community Right-to Know Act. Certain provisions of the act were expanded under the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990.

SARA requires reports from industries, businesses, government agencies, warehouses and publicly or privately owned facilities that use, store, or produce hazardous materials meeting the following criteria:

- with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), or;
- listed on the extremely hazardous materials list (§302 of SARA Title III "List of lists"), and;
- the amount is greater than or equal to 500lbs or the Threshold Planning Quantity.

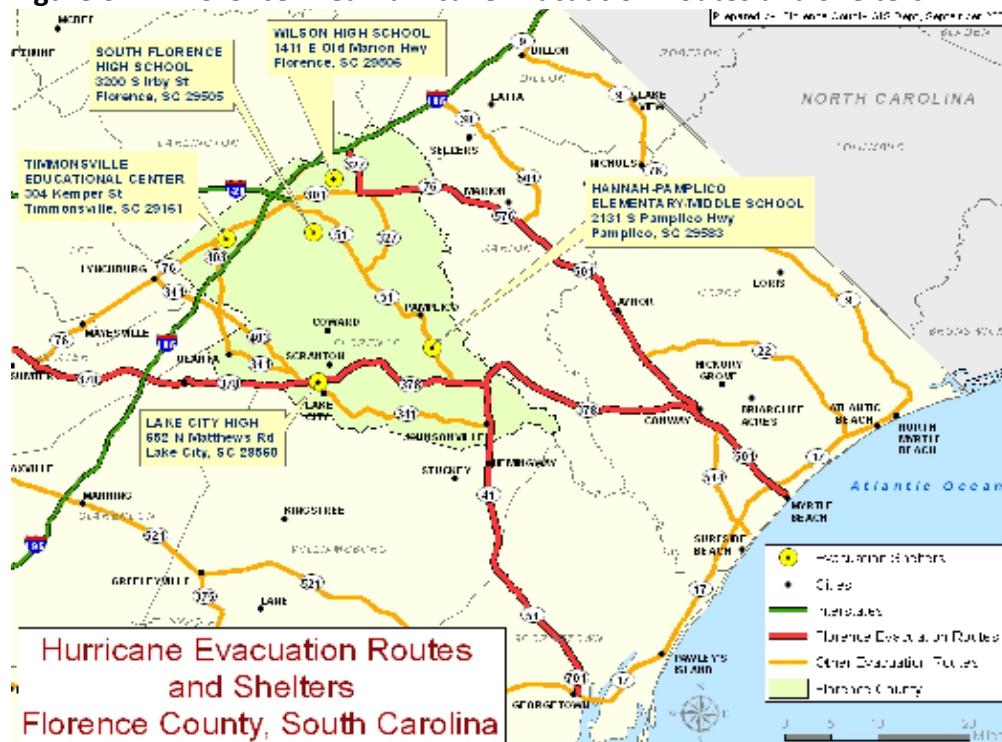
Annual and "snapshot" reports and plans must be submitted to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) and local fire department. In South Carolina, the SERC membership includes ten representatives from industry, the State Department of Health and Environment Control, the fire service and the state at large. The current director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division serves as the SERC Chairman. Each county in the State has an LEPC.

A primary regulating body for hazardous materials is the federal Environmental Protection Agency. The SCEMD provides assistance with planning and training for emergency responders. The State’s Department of Health and Environmental Control responds to incidents, receives all reports and provides information to the public, industry, and commerce.

Natural hazards to which Florence County residents are susceptible include flooding, tornadoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, drought, and severe weather such as lightning, high wind, or dangerously high temperatures. The question is not *if*, but *when*, disaster will occur. All departments in the County and participating jurisdictions plan for emergency situations. County departments must not only be ready to protect or evacuate personnel and departmental property; each must be prepared for continuity of their ordinary business in extraordinary situations. While each department does prepare for disaster, three county departments are involved in mitigation or preparedness on a daily basis.

The Florence County Emergency Management Department is responsible for overall coordination of County, State, and volunteer agencies before, during, and after an emergency. This department produced the Florence County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in accordance with South Carolina Regulations 58-101, Local Emergency Preparedness Standards. The EOP is reviewed, and revised as necessary, then certified by the South Carolina Emergency Preparedness Division annually. The EOP includes, but is not limited to, provisions for public safety, mental and physical health, evacuation, public works, chemical neutralization, damage assessment, and coordination of relief effort for all types of emergencies, natural and technological.

Figure 6-22. Florence Area Hurricane Evacuation Routes and Shelters.



The Florence County Emergency Operations Plan is included as an addendum to the Community Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan. In accordance with S.C. Code Sections 6-29-310 through 6-29-1200, the Florence County Emergency Operations Plan is adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Florence County Planning, Building, and Codes Department (Planning Department) works to prevent and mitigate the damage from disasters. Building Inspections and Codes Enforcement ensures that building repairs and construction meet the 2003 International Building Code for residential properties and the 2006 International Building Code for commercial properties. For example, structures must be able to withstand wind speeds of 100 to 110 miles per hour without substantial damage. Also, new construction must be appropriately elevated to avoid flood damage.

The Planning Department implements and enforces zoning and applicable environmental regulations. Of particular importance is the County's low elevation and hurricane susceptibility, the Planning Department administers compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assesses a community's degree of flood risk and development potential. The NFIP, mandated in 1968, provides federally backed flood insurance that helps replace losses experienced by flood victims.

Florence County has participated in the NFIP since 1982. According to the FEMA CRS, there are currently 384 flood insurance policies covering over \$65,212,200 in property. Total premiums collected from Florence County are roughly \$176,159 yearly with an average of \$485 (FEMA CRS). A stricter flood plain development ordinance is now in effect which should reduce repetitive losses and prevent future losses.

Florence County is currently in the process of joining the CRS program. Acceptance will result in a decreased premium for homeowners whose homes are in compliance. Discounted rates may prompt further participation. Approximately 1254 homes currently lack flood insurance.

"Under the Community Rating System (CRS) flood insurance premiums are adjusted to reflect community activities that reduce flood damage to existing buildings, manage development in areas not mapped by the NFIP, protect new buildings beyond the minimum NFIP protection level, help insurance agents obtain flood data, and helps people obtain flood insurance." (NFIP/CRS)

The goal of the CRS is to encourage, by the use of flood insurance premium adjustments, community and state activities beyond those required by the National Flood Insurance Program to:

- reduce flood losses,
- reduce damage to insurable buildings,
- prevent increases in flood damage from new construction,
- protect public health and safety,

- reduce the risk of erosion damage,
- protect natural and beneficial floodplain functions,
- facilitate accurate insurance rating, and
- promote the awareness of flood insurance.

There are about 148 square miles in flood zone “A” where no base flood is established and about 24 square miles in flood zone “AE” with an established base flood. Currently there are an estimated 1,750 structures in the flood zone with 1,620 of those being residential.

Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) technology coupled with U.S. Corps of Engineers data should significantly increase the accuracy of the County’s FEMA elevation maps. These maps are scheduled to be updated within the next two years.

Some natural hazards are complicated by human intervention. Filling or draining wetlands (swamps), building levees or dams, clearing forests, and some agricultural, silviculture, and building practices can directly contribute to flooding. Depending upon natural rainfall, the same practices can contribute to drought. Educating the public about hazard mitigation and what “ordinary citizens” can do may gain cooperation in carrying out needed policies.

Fire Protection

A total of twelve fire departments and districts protect Florence County and its participating jurisdictions. Each fire department is given an Insurance Service Organization (ISO) Rating or Public Protection Classification which classifies the community’s fire-fighting capability. Most insurance companies use the ISO code to determine residential and commercial property policies. Better ISO ratings (a class scale of “1” to “10” with “1” being the best) translate to lower insurance rates.

The following organizations serve unincorporated areas:

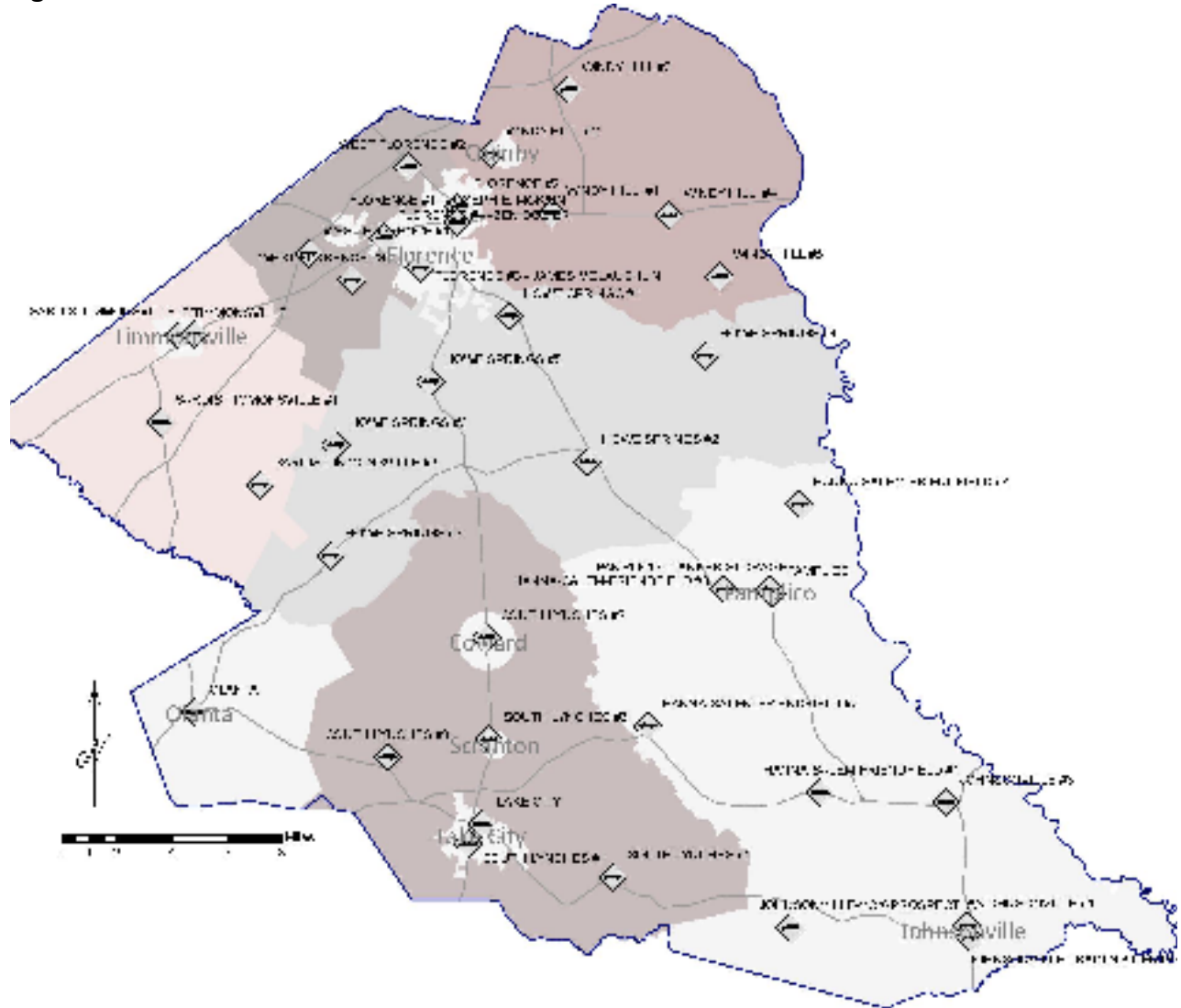
- Howe Springs Fire Department (ISO Class 5)
- South Lynches Fire District (ISO Class 4)
- West Florence Fire Department (ISO Class 4 and Class 9 in locations of no hydrants)
- Hannah-Salem-Friendfield Fire Department (ISO Class 7)
- Sardis-Timmonsville Fire Department (ISO Class 6)
- Windy Hill Fire Department (ISO Class 4)

The following Florence County municipalities support their own fire protection:

- Florence (ISO Class 2)
- Johnsonville (volunteer, ISO Class 4)
- Olanta (volunteer, ISO Class 4 in Olanta/ Classes 5 and 9 outside municipal limits)
- Timmonsville (volunteer, ISO Class 7)
- Lake City (ISO Class 3)
- Pamplico (ISO Class 5)

These municipal organizations also assist nearby stations outside the official incorporated limits. The Town of Scranton contracts with the South Lynches Fire Department for its fire service needs.

Figure 6-23. Location of Fire Houses and Fire Districts



Law Enforcement

Sheriff’s Office

The Florence County Sheriff’s Office employs 237 full- and part-time employees and is the largest entity of the County government. The Office provides safety and security to more than 130,000 citizens distributed over 800 square miles.

The Sheriff’s Office has occupied the Law Enforcement Complex (LEC) in Effingham since 1994 and includes offices, central dispatch, and housing for pre-sentence prisoners. The LEC is adjacent to the Pee Dee regional office of the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the County Impound.

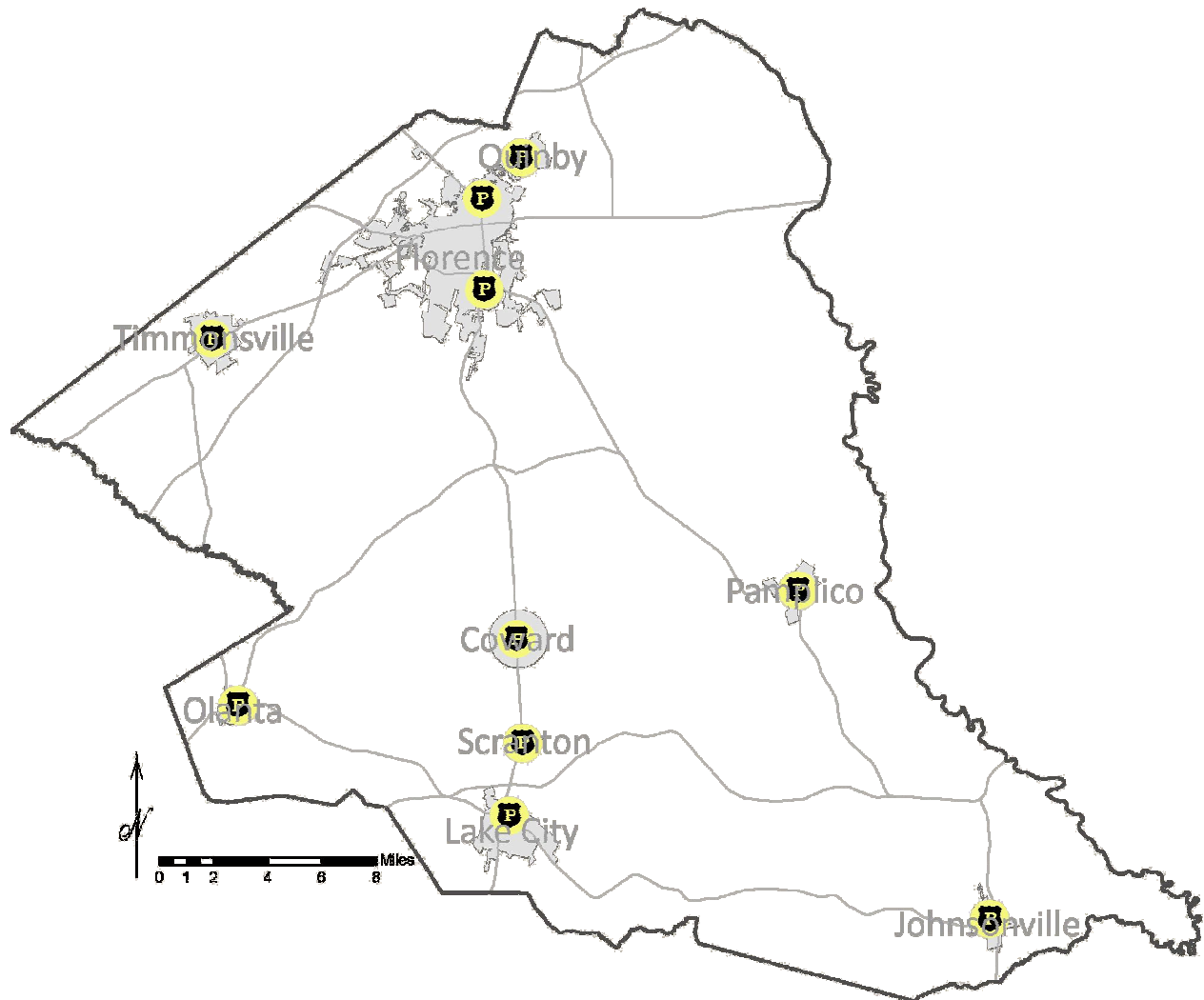
The Florence County Detention Center facility has a 522-bed capacity and is adjacent to a 120,000 sq ft work camp. The Detention Center houses local, state, and federal inmates. (source: Barbara Coker, Florence County Sheriff's Dept)

The following programs are directed by the Florence County Sheriff's Department.

- Camp Pee Dee Pride
- Annual Kids Fishing Tournament
- Annual Kids Golf Tournament
- Explorers Camp
- Academy camp
- Bringing Law Enforcement and Students Together (BLAST) Camp

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Figure 6-24. Locations of Police Departments



Police Departments of Participating Jurisdictions

The Cities of Florence and Johnsonville in addition to the Towns of Timmonsville, Scranton, and Olantha maintain a police force. In August 2003, the Florence Patrol Division established North and South Regional Headquarters. This change decentralized the patrol services and placed the officers where they needed to be. The North Region is located at 303 Athens Street and the South Region is located at 1811 South Irby Street.

The Special Services unit is located at the City-County Complex located at 180 North Irby Street. This Unit includes the Traffic Division, Canine/Warrant Team, Downtown/Bike Patrol Unit, Complex Security Unit, Transportation Unit, and Animal Control.

The following programs are directed by the Florence Police Department:

- Police/Youth programs, “Get Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs”
- PAL (Police Athletic League)

- Citizens Police Academy
- Code enforcement
- Neighborhood Watch Programs
- Citizen survey of community needs and priorities
- Bike Patrols
- Victim Assistance Program
- Fixed assignment of officers to districts
- Downtown foot and bike patrol

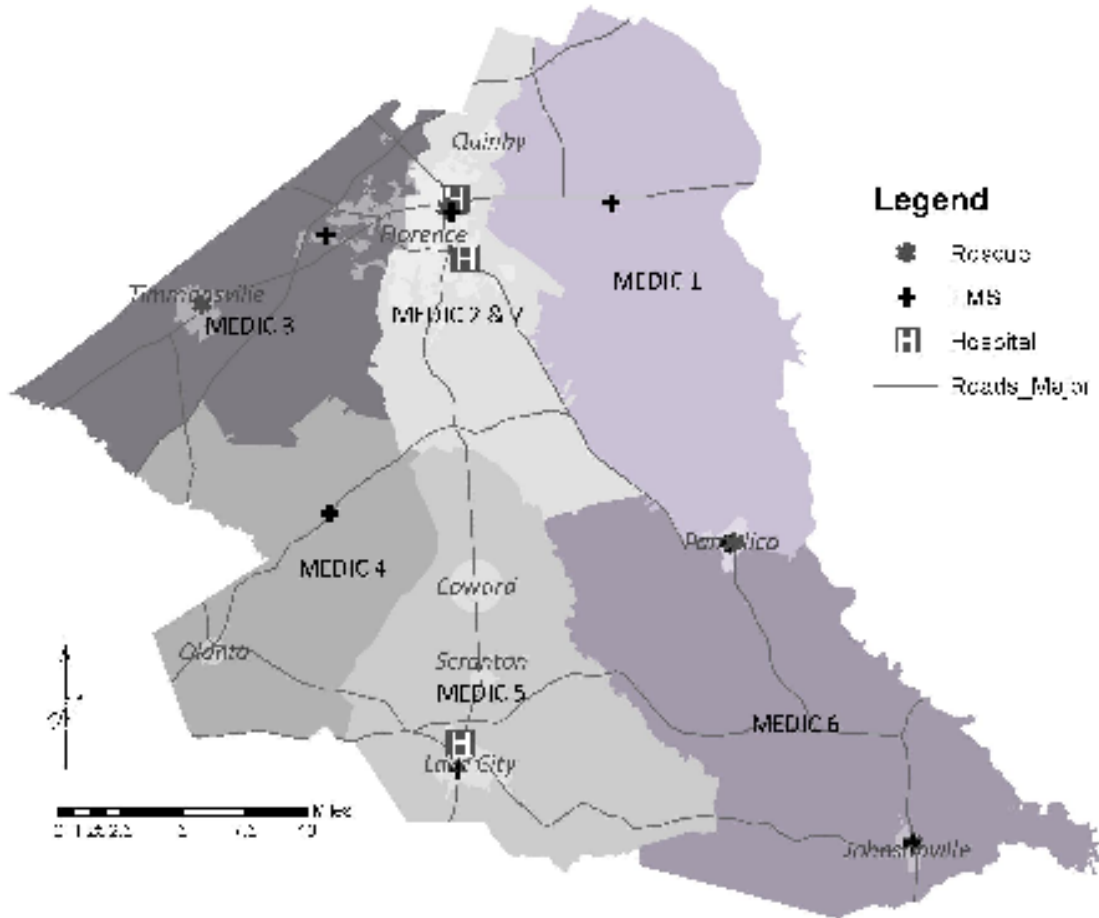
The Florence Police Department has received accreditation from the internationally-recognized Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

Emergency Medical Services

Florence County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is provided to Florence County residents and visitors. Full advanced life support is provided on a 24-hour basis. Seven ambulance stations and one quick responder station are located throughout the County, arranged in medic districts. Florence County EMS also supplements local rescue squads. All Florence County EMS ambulances are staffed with at least one paramedic and Emergency Medical Technician and provide primary patient care, stabilization and hospital transport. Routine transport or convalescent transport service must be provided by a private service.

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Figure 6-25. Hospital, EMS and Rescue Locations with Medic Districts



Central Dispatch receives all calls through the Enhanced 911 System. Florence County EMS has 52 full-time employees including 43 paramedics and nine EMT’s. Twelve part-time personnel are also employed. In addition, a Special Operations Team also exists with personnel whom have additional medical and specialty training. (www.florenceco.org/ems/)

Medical Facilities

Florence County is included in the Pee Dee Health District, one of the fifteen Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) health districts in the State of South Carolina. Two Health District facilities exist in Florence County: 145 East Cheves Street, Florence and at 137 N. Acline Street, Lake City. Many services have eligibility requirements while other services are available to all citizens.

In addition, DHEC maintains Home Health Care Services at 1705 West Evan Street which provides health care to people who are confined to their homes because of illness or injury.

In addition, the Florence County Environmental Services Department includes environmental services such as animal control, litter control, mosquito control, inmate litter removal crews, and the Adopt-A-Highway program.

Vital Records are also a component of the DHEC. It provides for the registration, correction and certification of vital events including live births and deaths.

Hospitals

McLeod Regional Medical Center is located at 555 East Cheves Street and is one of the largest employers in the Pee Dee with more than 3,000 employees. In addition, this medical center is a 371-bed hospital and includes a progressive medical staff. Region wide, McLeod Health is associated with more than 375 physicians.

McLeod offers many services including the Heart and Vascular Institute, cancer center, women's services, children's hospital, Center for Advanced Surgery, radiology, occupational health, surgery, ophthalmology and ophthalmologic surgery, diabetes, emergency, urgent care center, home health, Hospice and sports medicine. McLeod is also the only teaching hospital in this region. Furthermore, nearly 50 percent of McLeod's inpatients are referred from outside Florence County to receive specialty care.

Figure 6-26. McLeod Regional Medical Center



Carolinas Hospital System relocated from downtown Florence in 1998 to its present location on the Pamplico Highway (SC51). Carolina's opened the doors to its new 420-bed hospital with over 300 specialized physicians.

Carolina's Hospital has eleven operating suites including one for open heart surgery. All suites are equipped for the use of laser, endoscopic procedures including neurosurgery, vascular, orthopedic, gynecological and ophthalmological surgery. In addition there are three cystoscopy suites for urological procedures.

Figure 6-27. Carolinas Hospital



Carolina's provides diagnostic services, women's health services, cancer services, cardiac care, rehabilitation services, emergency/trauma services and community wellness facilities and programs.

Lake City Community Hospital is a 48 bed hospital located at 258 N. Ron McNair Blvd. In June 2005, the hospital returned to management by Lower Florence County Hospital District after being in a ten year agreement with Triad Hospitals. The medical staff consists of family practitioners, emergency room physicians, general surgeon, radiologists, orthopedists, internist, and four physician assistants.

Below is a list of accreditations for McLeod Regional Medical Center, Carolinas Hospital System, and Lake City Community Hospitals:

- Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (JCAHO)
- American College of Surgeons
- Council for Pharmacy Education
- College of American Pathologists
- Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL)
- Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities for Medical Rehabilitation Programs and Occupational Rehabilitation Programs

Electricity and Natural Gas

Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Progress Energy, Inc. compete for business in Florence County and incentive rates are available where applicable.

SCE&G, a SCANA Company, offers service to customers in most portions of Florence County.

Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Systems

Water supply and wastewater systems are important public services that sustain and allow for a growing population within a specific footprint without depleting or causing significant detriment to our existing natural resources. Florence County includes two main sources for drinking water: rivers and aquifers. A diverse source for drinking water is essential to endure periods of drought while being responsible to downstream water users. Likewise, the effective treatment of wastewater is important to limit its affects on our environment and neighboring populations.

City of Florence Water

The City of Florence’s water and wastewater systems are under a consolidated enterprise fund called the Water and Sewer Fund. The City prepares an annual budget for its water and sewer systems. The City of Florence Utility Department has maintained operational control of Florence County’s rural water system since July 2002. The City’s service area now consists of 361 square miles (see Figure 6-29).

Table 6-11. City of Florence Water Storage Capacity.

Name	Address	Capacity (gallons)
Airport	297 S. Greer Rd.	300,000
Ballard St.	111 Ballard St.	500,000
Darlington St.	1006 W. Darlington St. (Plant #21)	300,000
Dexter St.	1780 Dexter St. (Plant #17)	500,000
GE	121 N. Ebenezer Rd. (Plant #23)	500,000
Lucas St.	1220 Lucas St. (Plant #24)	500,000
McCown St.	2553 McCown St. (Plant #22)	500,000
Marion St.	266 E. Marion St.	500,000
Pine Needles	3381 Pine Needles Rd	500,000
Range Way	1551 Range Way	500,000
Redbud	199 E. Redbud Lane	500,000
TOTAL		5,100,000

In October of 2002, the City began operation of its new surface water plant utilizing the Great Pee Dee River as a water source. In addition to the existing groundwater productions wells and plants, the new facility added 10mgd to capacity. The annual withdrawal permit limit for groundwater wells is 5,700 million gallons which translates to 15.6 million gallons per day (mgd). Potable water can now be delivered at rates up to 25.6 mgd.

Figure 6-28. City of Florence Surface Water Treatment Plant.



In 2006, the average water system demand was 13.0 mgd. Demand peaked on July 18, 2006 at 17.6 million gallons. As of September 2008, the average daily consumption of water is 14,100,000 gallons while the maximum daily capacity of plants is 37 million gallons (Griffin, personal communication 2008). System demands are met by approximately 60% of groundwater plants while the remaining 40% is supplied by the surface water plant.

While the City operates one surface water plant, groundwater is treated at 13 plants which are fed by 29 production wells. Treated water is stored in 11 tanks (5.1 million gallon capacity) and two ground level tanks (2.5 million gallon capacity). The surface water plant is capable of storing 15 million gallons of pre-treated water.

As of September 2008, water transmission and distribution for Florence consists of approximately 741 miles of 2" to 36" diameter lines. The 30,238 taps in Florence serve roughly 73,000 customers (Griffin, personal communication 2008). There are 1,882 fire hydrants connected to the system.

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Table 6-12. Water Treatment Plants and Well Capacities for the City of Florence.

Name	Treatment Capacity (mgd)	Well ID	Well Capacity (mgd)	Primary Aquifer	Control (tank level)
Pine Street	1.5	16	1.1	Middendorf	Ballard St.
		43	1.5	Middendorf	
Dexter Street (YMCA)	1.0	17	0.8	Middendorf	Dexter Dr.
S.Irby Street (Gully Branch)	1.5	18	1.5	Middendorf	Dexter Dr.
		39	0.65	Black Creek	
Edisto Drive	2.0	19	0.65	Black Creek	Dexter Dr.
		33	1.3	Middendorf	
Darlington Street	2.5	21	1.3	Middendorf	Darlington St.
		27	1.0	Middendorf	
McCown Drive	2.5	22	0.8	Middendorf	McCown St.
		28	1.1	Middendorf	
		38	0.65	Black Creek	
N. Ebenezer Road (GE)	2.5	26	0.75	Middendorf	General Electric
		32	1.0	Middendorf	
		37	0.65	BlackCreek	
N. Lucas Street	2.0	24	1.5	Middendorf	Lucas St.
		42	1.5	Middendorf	
Stratton Drive (Oakdale)	2.0	25	1.5	Middendorf	Pine Needles Rd.
East Florence-Hwy 76 (Francis Marion)	3.0	30	1.5	Middendorf	Airport
		31	1.5	Middendorf	
		41	1.5	Middendorf	
E. Redbud Lane (South Florence)	3.0	34	0.43	Middendorf	Dexter Dr.
		35	0.94	Middendorf	
		36	0.86	Middendorf	
		40	0.65	Black Creek	
Alligator Road	2.0	45	1.5	Middendorf	Redbud
		46	1.0	Black Creek	
		47	1.5	Middendorf	
N. Old River Road	1.5	48	4.5	Middendorf	System Pressure
Total Treatment Capacity		27.0			
<i>Middendorf Wells Subtotal</i>				27.9	
<i>Black Creek Wells Subtotal</i>				4.3	
Total Well Capacity				32.2	
16-Hour Capacity permitted withdrawal limit		21.4			
		15.6			

City of Florence Wastewater

The City of Florence owns and operates the wastewater treatment plant. This site has been in operation since the 1950s. In 1977 an upgrade was made to increase the capacity to approximately 10mgd. At this time, treated effluent from this facility was discharged into Jeffries Creek, adjacent to the facility.

In 1994, the facility was upgraded to increase capacity to 15.0mgd. Peak design flow was increased to 31.0mgd with 20.0mgd flowing through the old liquid and 11.0mgd flowing through the new. This upgrade included an effluent pump station and force main so that the discharge point could be redirected from Jeffries Creek to the Pee Dee River.

The City of Florence has approximately 425 miles of pipe and 92 pump stations making up the wastewater collection system. As of September 2008, there are 19,486 service connections and an average of 9,820,000 gallons of wastewater treated daily (9.82mgd). The maximum daily treatment capacity is 15,000,000 gallons (15mgd).

The five individual systems within the total system are listed below:

- Jeffries Creek Trunk Sewer System
- Middle Swamp Trunk Sewer System
- High Hill Creek Trunk Sewer System
- Pye Branch Trunk Sewer System
- Roche Carolina/Francis Marion/SC 327 Trunk Sewer System

City of Florence Stormwater

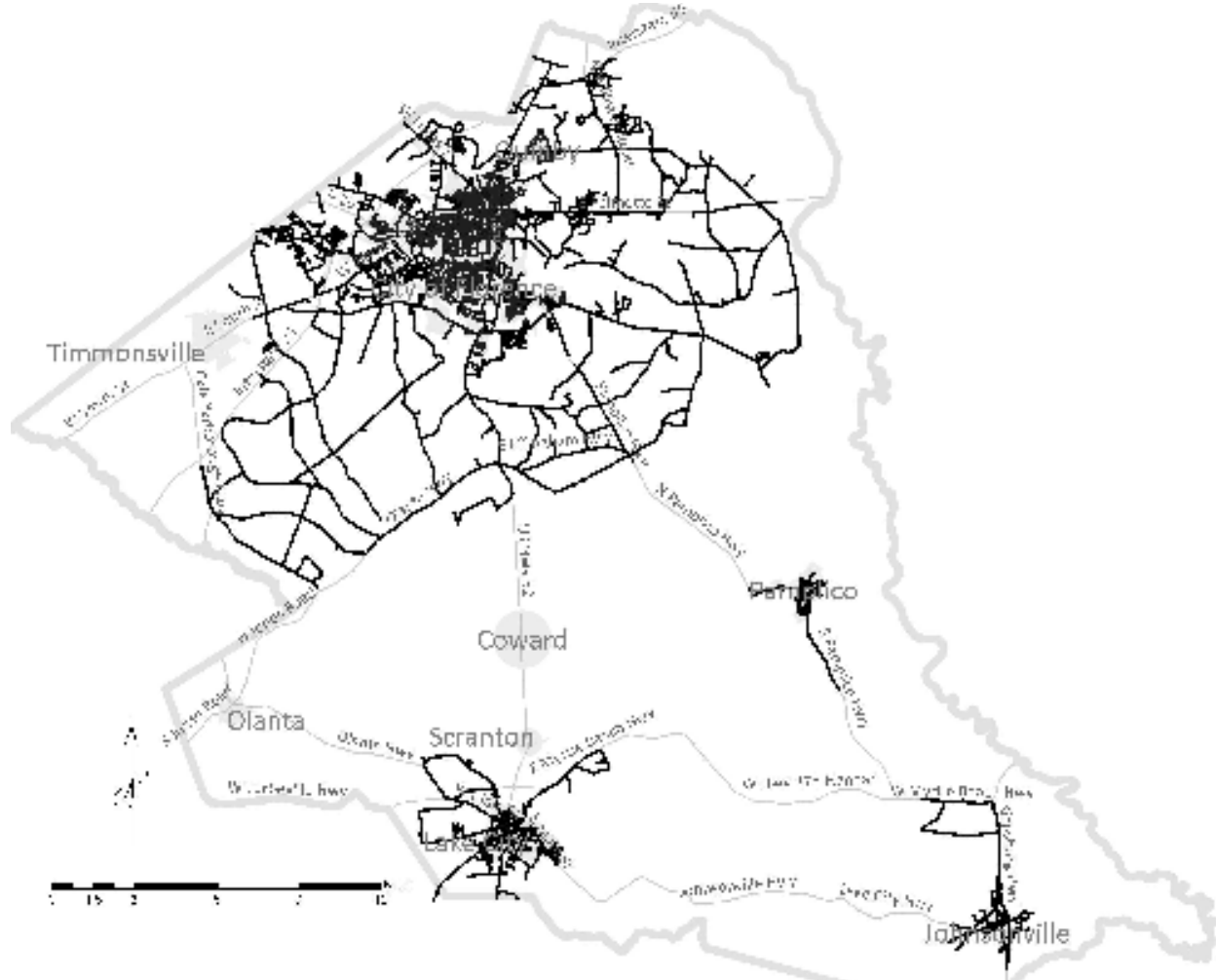
The City of Florence Stormwater Operations Division is responsible for all maintenance of storm drains and drainage ditches in public areas and along City streets. Storm drains and ditches divert the storm water into larger bodies of water until they finally reach the ocean. There are 110 miles of storm sewers in Florence County and 105 outfalls.

All proposed developments require a drainage system that has been designed by a registered engineer to provide proper drainage of surface water and permit the unimpeded flow of natural resources. It must also provide drainage away from on-site sewage disposal facilities.

The Stormwater Improvements Management project (SWIM), is a reclamation effort that encompasses significant wetlands adjacent to Pye Branch in the East Florence area. "We're basically reconstructing a wetland area that was misused during the 30's and 40's," says Drew Griffin.

When we're done, the wetlands re-creation, stream restoration and re-establishment of native vegetation in the project area will improve the quality of stormwater entering Jeffries Creek from this urban watershed. We'll not only improve the quality of stormwater runoff, but create a nature park as well, complete with trails and interactive kiosks to educate people on the importance of good land and water management practices. (Drew Griffin)

Figure 6-29. Water Supply Lines Provided by Florence, Pamplico, Lake City and Johnsonville.



Town of Pamplico Water and Sewer

The Town of Pamplico provides its citizens and businesses with water and sewerage service and expects to expand water lines as funds become available.

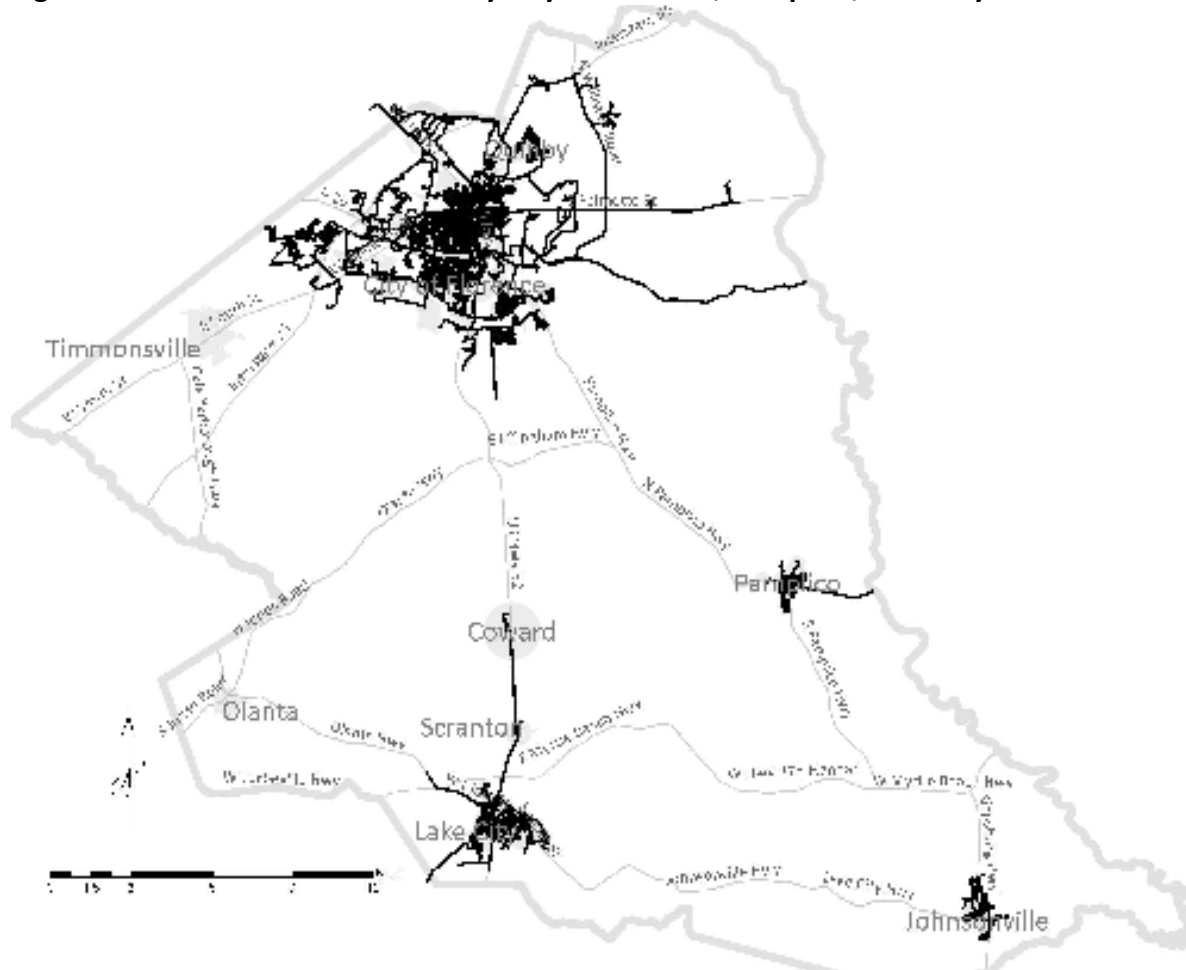
Lake City Water and Sewer

The City of Lake City has water and sewerage service and is currently extending water lines outside the city limits.

City of Johnsonville Water and Sewer

Water service is provided by the City within and outside the corporate limits. The City created a Master Plan in 2004 that included extensions to nearly 400 customers outside of the City limits. The City currently serves more than 1,500 customers and will exceed 1,700 by the end of 2009.

Figure 6-30. Sewer Lines Provided by City of Florence, Pamplico, Lake City and Johnsonville.



To increase water capacity, Johnsonville is constructing a 200,000 gallon tank, an additional 750 gallons per minute (gpm) well and approximately four miles of water lines to improve system hydraulics. The new capacity will allow Johnsonville to supply existing industries, and to meet the demands of future growth.

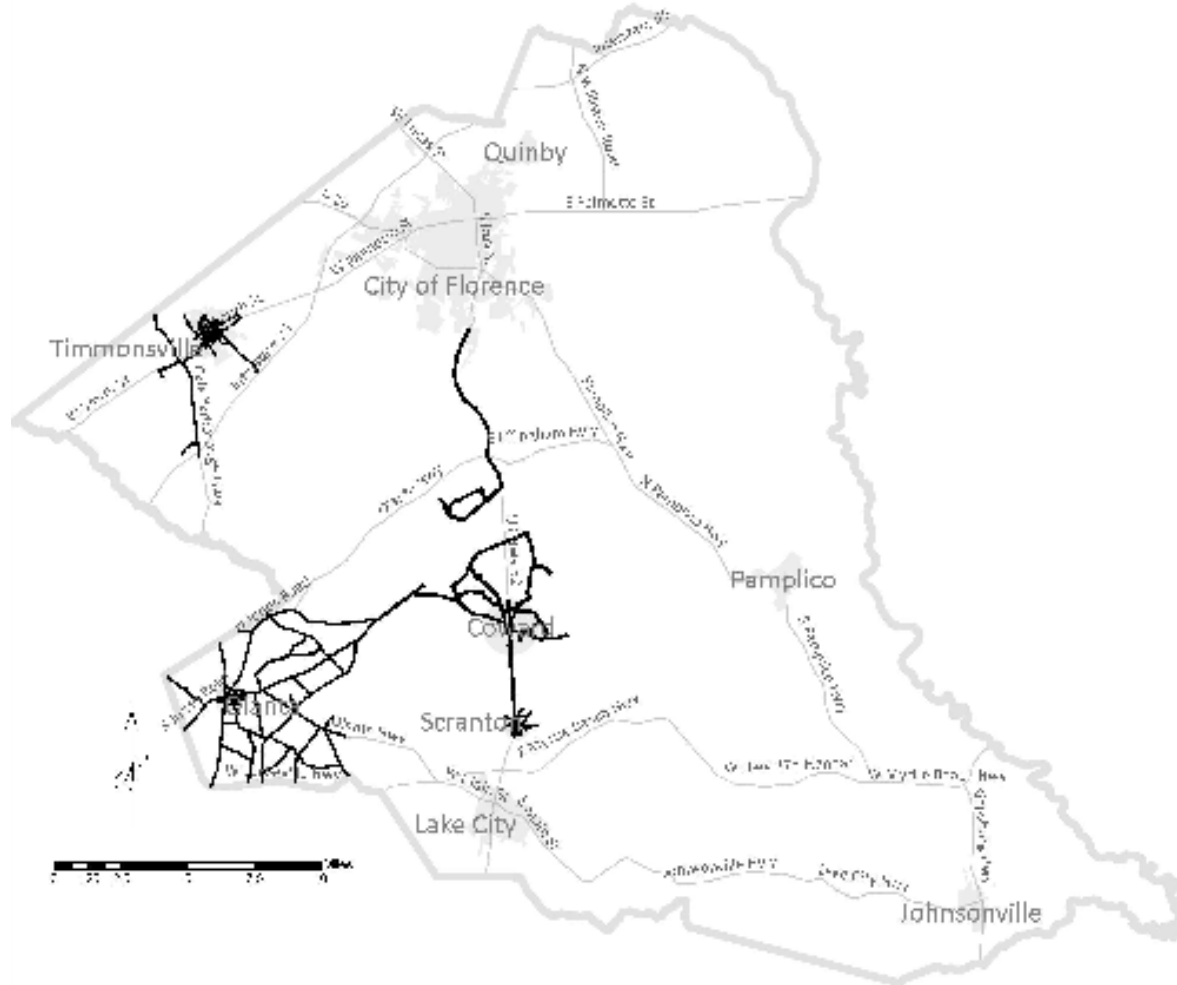
The communities of Possum Fork, Kingsburg, Salem, and Postons Corner have been added to Johnsonville’s water facilities. The City is also interconnected with Hemingway’s water system and will soon extend lines into the Vox community west of the corporate limits.

The City also has plans to extend sewer service to residents within and outside of the corporate limits. The City has one of the largest treatment facilities in the Pee Dee region; it is capable of treating 4.5 million gallons of wastewater per day. The treatment facility currently has approximately 3 million gallons of excess capacity, making Johnsonville an attractive location for future residential and commercial growth.

Town of Quinby Water

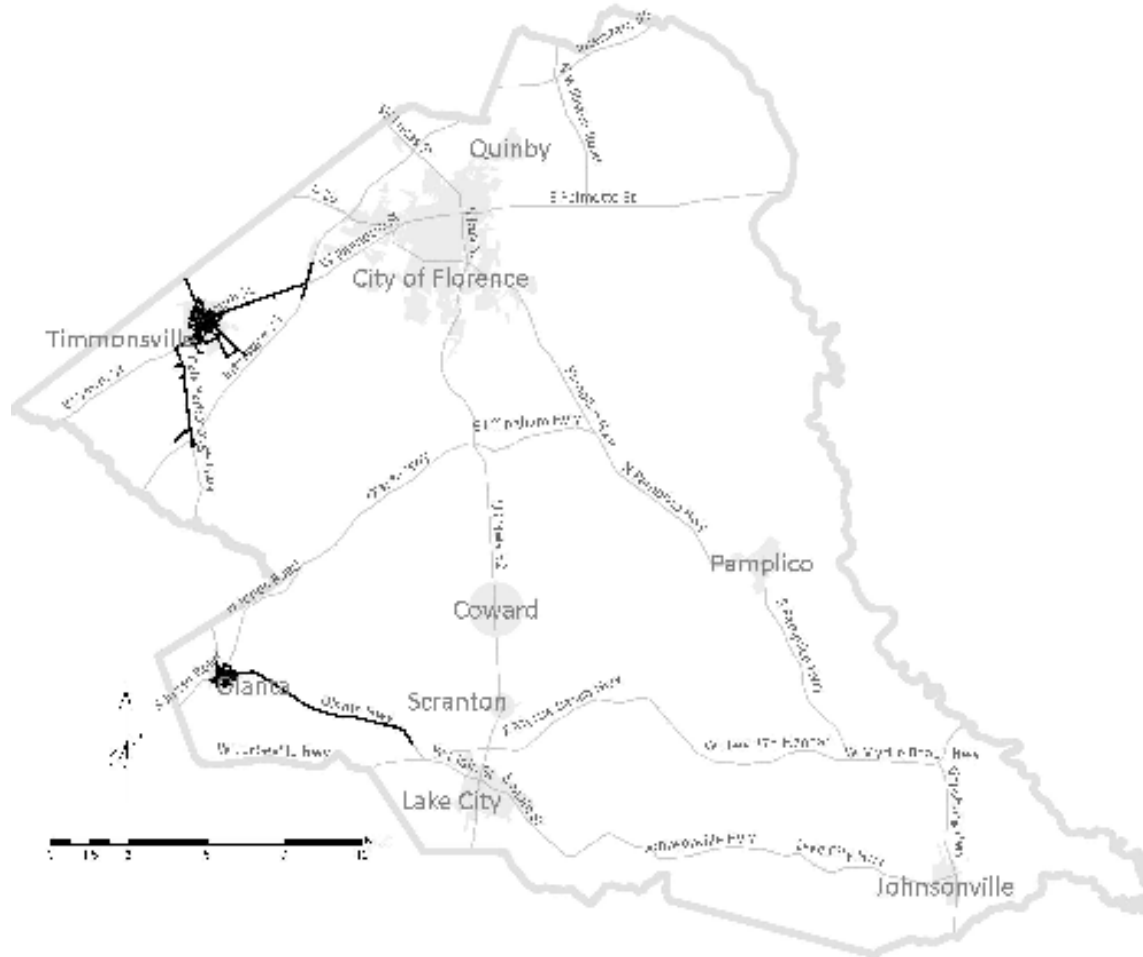
The City of Florence assumed ownership and operational control of the Quinby water system in 1998. The City of Florence also designed and constructed a sewer system to serve the town of Quinby. Both systems are integrated into the City's utility system.

Figure 6-31. Water Supply Lines Provided by Timmonsville, Coward, Scranton and Olanta.



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Figure 6-32. Sewer Lines Provided by Timmonsville and Olanta.



Town of Scranton Water and Sewer

The Town of Scranton has water service and expects to expand water lines in the near future as funds become available. The town’s sewage service is supplied by Lake City.

Town of Timmonsville Water and Sewer

Timmonsville has both sewerage and water service for most of the Town and some of its surrounding environs. As previously stated, Florence County has water system interconnections and a water purchase agreement with the Town of Timmonsville.

Town of Olanta Water and Sewer

Olanta is served by water and sewerage facilities from Lake City although plans are for the municipality to provide its own sewerage service.

Solid Waste Facilities

Florence County encourages recycling by providing solid waste and used oil collection centers in cooperation with the private sector.

The following convenience centers collect cans (aluminum, steel), plastic (#1, clear #2), glass (brown, green, clear), paper (newspaper and inserts, cardboard), aluminum pans and foil, yard waste, white goods (large appliances), used motor oil, bottles and filters. Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 7am – 7pm.

Table 6-13. Convenience Centers

Site	Address	Location	Additional Materials
Greenwood	2325 Carnell Drive	Florence	
Airport	708 S. Stadium Drive	Florence	tires, oil filters
Quinby	1508 E. Old Marion Hwy	Quinby	tires
Timmonsville	1840 S. Warren Street	Timmonsville	tires
Pamplico	411 S. Oak Street	Pamplico	tires, oil filters
Coward	3315 Highway 52	Coward	oil filters
Lake City	273 N. Church Street	Lake City	tires, farmers used oil (55 gal. max.), oil filters
Landfill	2616 Papermill Road	Florence	
Effingham	6760 Friendfield Road	Effingham	tires, farmers used oil (55 gal. max.), oil filters
Hannah	3648 Tree Haven Road	Pamplico	oil filters
Paul Jones	4807 Buddy's Lane	Effingham	
Ebenezer	359 S. Ebenezer Road	Florence	oil filters, oil/gas mixture, tires
Olanta	4212 Chandler Road	Olanta	oil filters
Johnsonville	230 W. Egg Farm Road	Johnsonville	oil filters, tires
Cussaac	5169 Sardis Hwy	Timmonsville	

source: www.scdhec.net/environment/lwm/recycle/florence.htm

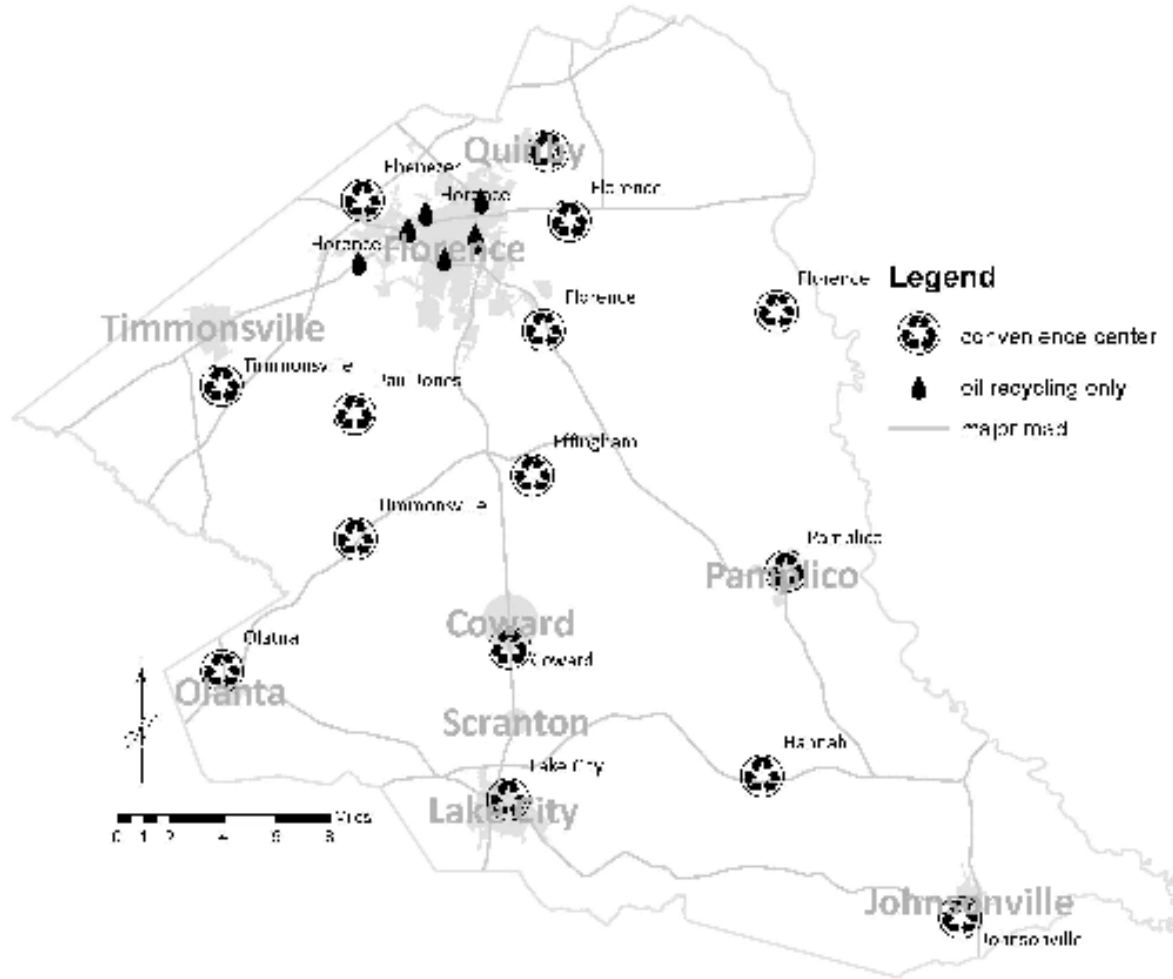
Table 6-14. Additional Used Motor Oil Collection Sites

Site	Address	City
City of Florence Fire Station*	W. Palmetto Street	Florence
City of Florence Fire Station*	Edisto Street	Florence
City of Florence Fire Station	E. Marion Street	Florence
Advance Auto Parts	931 Irby Street	Florence
Advance Auto Parts	1802 W. Evans Street	Florence
Advance Auto Parts	3217 W. Palmetto Street	Florence
Auto Zone	830 S. Irby Street	Florence
Jiffy Lube	2189 W. Evans Street	Florence
Jiffy Lube	815 S. Irby Street	Florence
Jiffy Lube	3206 Pine Needles Road	Florence
Tractor Supply	2590 S. Irby Street	Florence
Advance Auto Parts	245 N. Ron McNair Blvd	Lake City
Auto Zone	215 S. Ron McNair Blvd	Lake City
* also accept used oil filters		

source: www.scdhec.net/environment/lwm/recycle/florence.htm

Curbside refuse pick-up could reduce cost to Florence County residents whom take trash to convenience centers. Pick-up service would also reduce cost involved with maintaining and running these transfer sites and convenience centers. This economic solution to the disposal of household garbage and recyclables could also diminish burning sources and increase recycling volumes which is also federally mandated.

Figure 6-33. Convenience Centers and Oil Recycling Locations.



Public education about the importance of recycling is essential to reduce the waste of energy and natural resources. Several state agencies offer educational programs for children and adults. Local organizations and schools could also be a source of information.

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GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

GOAL 1

Maintain a library system that provides convenient access to available information for all of Florence County.

Implementation Strategy: Update the facilities, resources, and technological capabilities to accommodate growth for all municipalities while making the most efficient and effective use of funds, both public and private.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 2

Maintain a school system that will allow for the growing student population while maximizing the efficient use of resources and reducing operational costs.

Implementation Strategy: Communication between the Florence County School Districts and Government to ensure adequate facilities to accommodate future growth.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 3

Take advantage of existing public facilities for public activities.

Implementation Strategy: Inventory public facilities including schools and meeting places for expanded public use. Summertime and evening hour public activities may be scheduled in facilities only used during the day. Many public facilities include large indoor, oftentimes climate controlled environments that may be more fully utilized. Volunteers may need to be mobilized to supervise any activities beyond normal working hours.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 4

Continue to develop a county-wide greenway plan incorporating streams, easements, parks, publicly owned property, and abandoned railway right of way.

Implementation Strategy: Explore funding sources for expansion and enhancement of these properties by creating public awareness.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 5

Ensure the safety of all residents and provide the shortest possible response time for any emergency situation.

Implementation Strategy: Maintain the latest technology and provide adequate trained staff to meet the public needs.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 6

Accommodate growth by expanding and enhancing the current transportation system.

Implementation Strategy: Conduct a long range transit study, continue to identify eligible projects in FLATS, establish criteria for sidewalks, and encourage non-auto mode uses by expanding trails and providing bike paths.

Time Frame: Short Term, Continuous

GOAL 7

Institute a Capital Improvement Plan with emphasis on parks, open space, playgrounds and libraries.

Implementation Strategy: Maintain an inventory of all existing capital facilities, capacities, demand forecasts, and level of service demands. Identify existing areas that lack adequate facilities and services.

Time Frame: Continuous

GOAL 8

Continue to review population projections to determine the potential restructuring needs for water and wastewater facilities.

Implementation strategy: Coordinate with municipalities to determine the necessity of expansion and potential areas. Inventory existing septic system usage and reduce reliance by 50% by expanding sewage service.

Time Frame: Continuous

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GOAL 9

Protect drinking water supplies from pollution.

Implementation Strategy: Adopt and implement stormwater management programs to educate and involve the public. Adopt a Wellfield Protection Plan. Adopt a tree ordinance to aid in storm water control.

Time Frame: continuous

GOAL 10

Pursue solid waste disposal options while maintaining that public health and the environment are priority.

Implementation Strategy: Promote recycling by educating the public beginning with the youth.

Time Frame: Continuous

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APPENDIX

ADOPTION DATE.....April 2, 2009, Ordinance No. 20-2008/09