



# *Jasper County, South Carolina*

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## **Keep Jasper County Beautiful, Barbara Clark honored by SC Association of Counties for strong leadership**

Jasper County earned two honors at the South Carolina Association of Counties’ annual meeting this month, including the election of Jasper County Council Chair Barbara Clark to the Association’s board of directors – the first time in memory of a Jasper County Council member serving on the statewide leadership group.

Also, the South Carolina Palmetto Pride Office celebrated the Keep Jasper County Beautiful Program for its amazing work coordinating multiple litter collection efforts, convincing Jasper County businesses to adopt highway sections for clean-up, and providing overall education about litter.

“The annual conference of the South Carolina Association of Counties is a chance to learn better ways to do county business, to find out what’s coming up in the legislature, and to brainstorm common challenges and opportunities with other county leaders,” said Andrew Fulghum, Jasper County administrator.

“It’s even nicer when your county gets recognized for doing good work, and Jasper County is fortunate to have both Barbara Clark and the Keep Jasper County Beautiful Program,” he said.

The South Carolina Association of Counties is the only organization dedicated to the statewide representation of county government in South Carolina. The group is a non-partisan, non-profit association that strives to build stronger counties for tomorrow by working with county officials to provide education and training, legislative reporting, research and technical assistance. The group held its annual conference Aug. 1-4 at the Isle of Palms in Charleston County.

Lyn Boyles, director of Keep Jasper County Beautiful, said the Association’s recognition results from the hard work and dedication of hundreds of volunteers and groups across the county. The award specifically recognizes Jasper County Council’s support of the program.

In the first six months of 2022, her group of about 340 volunteers collected more than 25 tons of litter across Jasper County, participated in 27 events and presentations and coordinated 14 Adopt-A-Highway clean-up teams.

“It’s a well-planned, well-executed effort we have put together across Jasper County to combat litter, clean it up, and most importantly to educate people why littering is a bad thing,” Boyles said. “We appreciate Palmetto Pride and the South Carolina Association of Counties recognizing us as such a strong program.”

Mrs. Clark, chair of the Jasper County Council, joins the SC Association of Counties’ Board of Directors for a four-year term following her election Thursday, Aug. 4.

“I can honestly say I am honored and privileged to represent Jasper County on the Association Board of Directors,” Clark said. “I don’t think our county has ever had this kind of opportunity to share, participate and be at the table with this important group, and believe me, I don’t take it lightly.

“We have a lot of work to do in Jasper County, in the Lowcountry and across South Carolina, but some of that work is good work, dealing with economic growth in the right ways and upgrading our infrastructure,” she said. “The more we can coordinate that with neighboring counties or across South Carolina, the better for us all.”

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