

# **2026 South Carolina Vegetation Management Association Annual Conference Agenda Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort**

***Tuesday, January 20, 2026***

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- 12:30 – 1:30 **Board of Directors Lunch**
- 2:00 – 2:30 **Board of Directors Meeting**
- 3:00 – 6:00 **Conference Registration ~ Sponsored by: *Energreen America***
- 3:00 – 6:00 **Exhibitor Setup**

***Wednesday, January 21, 2026***

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- 7:30 – 8:30 **Conference Registration ~ Sponsored by: *Energreen America***  
**Breakfast with Exhibitors ~ Sponsored by: *Xylem Tree Experts***
- 8:30 – 8:35 **Welcome Remarks – 2026 SCVMA President**  
*Jamie Johnson, Xylem Tree Experts*
- 8:35 – 8:45 **2026 SCVMA Scholarship Committee Report**  
*Billy Nowlen, Committee Chair*  
*Tater Oliver, Committee Vice Chair*
- 8:45 – 9:35 **SCVMA 101**  
*SCVMA Board of Directors*
- 9:35 – 10:25 **Lead with Impact**  
*Harry Boyd, SCDOT Maintenance Contract Manager*
- 10:25 – 10:40 **BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS ~ Sponsored by: *Nutrien Solutions***
- 10:40 – 11:00 **South Carolina Pesticide Regulatory Update**  
*Ryan Okey, South Carolina Department of Pesticide Regulation*
- 11:00 – 11:50 **Optimizing Herbicide Applications: Water Volume, Calibration, and Nozzle Selection**  
*Jesse Peery, Envu*
- 11:50 – 12:10 **BUSINESS MEETING (Business Meeting Agenda)**
- 12:10 – 12:50 **LUNCH ~ Sponsored by: *Energreen America***

## ***Wednesday, January 21, 2026***

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- 12:50 – 1:40 **Why We Need to Fight to Keep Glyphosate in the Vegetation Management Toolbox**  
*Dr. John Byrd, Mississippi State University*
- 1:40 – 2:30 **Integrated Vegetation Management & Wildlife Habitat**  
*Jay Jordan, Progressive Solutions*
- 2:30 – 3:00 **BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS ~ Sponsored by: Helena Agri-Enterprises**
- 3:00 – 3:50 **Benefits of a Vegetation Management Plan**  
*Kurt Mead, SCDOT Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer – Anderson County*  
*Zach Taylor, SCDOT Contracts Engineer – Anderson County*
- 3:50 – 4:20 **Award Presentations**
- 4:20 – 4:45 **Sign Up for Continuing Education Credits**
- 5:00 – 6:30 **Reception with Exhibitors ~ Sponsored by: Opterra Solutions**  
**Conference Sponsor Recognition**

## ***Thursday, January 22, 2026***

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- 7:30 – 8:30 **BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS ~ Sponsored by: Kendall**
- 8:30 – 9:00 **SCDOT Update**  
*Andrew T. Leaphart P.E., SCDOT Chief Engineer for Operations*
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Chainsaw Basics**  
*Ray Snodgrass, Xylem Tree Experts*
- 9:30 – 10:20 **Challenges to Vegetation Management Due to the Endangered Species Act**  
*Dr. John Byrd, Mississippi State University*
- 10:20 – 10:40 **BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS ~ Sponsored by: Asplundh**
- 10:40 – 11:30 **Herbicide Blends**  
*Sammy Keziah, Orion Solutions*
- 11:30 – 12:00 **2026 Scholarship Raffle Drawing**  
**Closing Remarks**  
*Jamie Johnson, 2024-2026 SCVMA President*
- 12:00 – 12:15 **Sign Up for Continuing Education Credits**  
**Refreshments – For the Road ~ Sponsored by: Stroble Site Services**