



South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority
Creating water solutions.
Improving communities statewide.

For Immediate Release
May 26, 2026

Rural Infrastructure Authority awards construction grants to upgrade critical infrastructure

\$29 million in grant funding awarded across South Carolina

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) has approved over \$29 million in grant assistance for 22 capital improvement projects that will address critical water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure needs in 16 counties.

These improvements will benefit over 50,000 households and businesses by improving public health and water quality, as well as strengthening the services needed to support economic growth. In addition, RIA has selected two communities to participate in a new program for small and rural utilities designed to combine technical assistance with opportunities for future grant funding.

“We are proud to partner with local communities to build and maintain strong utility systems,” RIA Executive Director Bonnie Ammons said. “These targeted investments provide the support needed to improve quality of life and facilitate economic opportunities across the state.”

Funded improvements include upgrades of aging or undersized water mains, rehabilitation or replacement of aging wastewater lines, improvements to wastewater pump stations and treatment plants, and enhancements or expansions of stormwater drains and culverts.

Several of the projects will directly address health and environmental requirements. Many will upgrade or replace infrastructure that is undersized or deteriorating due to age, ensuring continued reliable service and increased capacity to accommodate growing communities. Four grants will directly support economic efforts by upgrading wastewater lines and treatment facilities that serve residents, businesses and industries.

RIA collaborates with local communities and other partners to maximize the impact of state grant dollars. The RIA grant awards will be combined with more than \$35 million in local and other funds to carry out the proposed water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects.

RIA grants are generally awarded twice a year through a competitive process that considers the need for improved public health, environmental protection, community sustainability and economic opportunities.

Applications are selected by the RIA board based on criteria that includes severity of the problem, expected impact and project feasibility. Recipients share the cost of infrastructure projects by paying for non-construction or other activities and, oftentimes, providing additional funds for construction.

Below is a list of grant and technical assistance recipients, awarded May 18, 2026. To learn more about RIA or how to apply for grant assistance, visit www.ria.sc.gov.

Grantee	County	Award Amount
Aiken, City of	Aiken	\$1,500,000
Aiken, City of	Aiken	\$1,500,000
Barnwell, City of	Barnwell	\$1,452,220
Cherokee County	Cherokee	\$1,500,000
Chesterfield County/ Chesterfield County Rural Water Company	Chesterfield	\$1,473,691
Clinton, City of	Laurens	\$1,500,000
Darlington County	Darlington	\$1,500,000
Dorchester County Water Authority	Dorchester	\$1,500,000
Florence, City of	Florence	\$1,500,000
Fort Mill, Town of	York	\$1,320,000
Greer Commission of Public Works	Spartanburg	\$1,050,000
Kingstree, Town of	Williamsburg	\$1,500,000
Latta, Town of	Dillon	\$1,491,600
Lexington County	Lexington	\$873,000
Lyman, Town of	Spartanburg	\$1,500,000
Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict	Greenville	\$1,500,000
Orangeburg, City of	Orangeburg	\$1,320,000
Sharon, Town of	York	\$358,875
Spartanburg Water System	Spartanburg	\$1,500,000
Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District	Spartanburg	\$1,500,000
Walterboro, City of	Colleton	\$1,436,544
Williamsburg County	Williamsburg	\$909,437

Viability Improvement Program Participant	County
McCormick County	McCormick
Olanta, Town of	Florence

About S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority

The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) was created to help communities with financing for qualified infrastructure projects. Infrastructure primarily refers to water and wastewater systems as well as stormwater drainage. Chaired by the Secretary of Commerce, the RIA is governed by a board of directors, including six members who reside in or represent distressed and/or least developed counties.

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