



Charleston County News Release

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See photos: <http://www.charlestoncounty.org/newsimages/gis.htm>

Charleston County GIS Coordinator Receives International Award

First local government in the state to receive the international honor

[Charleston County Government](#) received Esri's Special Achievement in GIS award for outstanding work with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology.

Brenda Wheatley, the [County's GIS Coordinator](#), received this award from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (Esri). Esri is the GIS software company used throughout the County, in departments such as Public Works, Zoning and Planning, Building Inspections Services and Assessor, to provide improvements in the daily operations and more accurate analysis and reporting.

The award is given to user sites around the world to recognize outstanding work with GIS technology. [Charleston County was one of only a handful of outstanding projects selected from more than 100,000 organizations from around the world.](#)

"It is such an honor to receive this award," Wheatley said. "It certainly positions Charleston County as a leader in the use and advancement of GIS technology." Esri's president and founder, Jack Dangermond, presented the award in July at the 30th Annual Esri International User Conference.

[Charleston County Council](#) recognized Wheatley during its regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 19 to acknowledge appreciation for her hard work.

The State GIS Coordinator, Dr. Tim DeTroye, sent a letter congratulating the County on its achievement. According DeTroye, Charleston County is the first local government in the state to win the award.

"By embracing geographic information system (GIS) technology, these organizations have used GIS to improve our world—and set new precedents throughout the GIS community," Dangermond said of the winning organizations.

"This is a great testament to the hard work and dedication that Brenda has had over the last several years as the County's one and only GIS coordinator," said Donald Giacomo, [Charleston County's Technology Services](#) Director.

GIS is a computerized database system that allows capture, storage, retrieval, analysis and display of spatial or geographic data with the ability to produce and manipulate the graphic elements of a map.

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