

TEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR AWENDAWS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan is based on ten guiding principles that will protect and enhance the natural beauty and rural lifestyle of the Town. The Comprehensive Plan elements directly support and implement these principles:

- 1. Community Character.** The Awendaw Community is dedicated to preserving, enhancing, and restoring the Town's character as a rural, coastal, and forest community.
- 2. Rural Lifestyle.** The Awendaw Community recognizes and supports the fishing, wildlife, and forest lifestyles including the historic Gullah/Geechee people of the Town as unique and defining attributes.
- 3. Natural Environment** The Awendaw Community seeks to preserve, protect, enhance, and restore the Town's riparian corridors, woodlands, and wetlands to protect its wildlife and natural habitat, and to maintain its scenic bay vistas and tranquil environment.
- 4. Built Environment.** The Awendaw Community believes that the built environment should be subordinate, sensitive, and complementary to the natural environment, setting, and, specific site conditions to minimize disturbance to terrain, conserve visual resources, and protect open space. The Community supports low-country architectural and site design requirements that set forth community expectations and ensure quality development.
- 5. Rural Density.** The Awendaw Community strives to avoid the suburbanization of its Town by limiting rural residential density to a maximum of four units per acre in the densest locations on major roadways and then decreasing sharply as you move toward town peripheries. Planned communities will incorporate considerable open space and natural areas into their designs.
- 6. Circulation.** The Awendaw Community promotes safe and convenient circulation for all modes of travel throughout the Town; on Town roads, trails, and paths.
- 7. Commercial Services** The Awendaw Community desires commercial services and facilities which meet the frequently recurring needs of the residents and the occasional needs of highway travelers. The Community feels that a key economic driver for the sustainability of the Town will be eco-tourism and businesses that support this endeavor.
- 8. Safety.** Awendaw strives to protect persons and property from unreasonable exposure to natural hazards, such as hurricane activity, fire, unstable terrain, storms, and flood, by continuously improving regulations, policies, and procedures to reflect current best management practices
- 9. Community Culture.** Awendaw favors a community culture that encourages citizen involvement, individual expression, and diversity, and recognizes the interdependence with neighboring communities and responsibility as good citizens within the region, State, and nation.
- 10. Sustainability.** The Awendaw Community seeks to be a good steward of the land. The goal is to promote the conservation of resources and utilize sustainable practices which recognize the connection to, and interdependence with, the natural environment