

# What We Believe

We hope you share the Center's values and support both our motives and methods. Pursuing the Center's mission, guided by the following beliefs, will enable us to defend and advance the interests of all Georgia citizens in the challenging years ahead.

***Our goal is a sustainable coast: The responsible use and care of our environment to safeguard the health, quality of life, and prosperity of this and future generations. Achieving it depends on using reliable information and ensuring accountability in the decisions made by public officials.***



1. Having the benefits of a healthy environment is a fundamental right of all citizens.
2. Failure to fully enforce environmental laws is a violation of that right.
3. Politically-motivated actions that ignore or minimize environmental considerations work against the public interest.
4. Public officials who fail to understand and protect public interests are not qualified to remain in office.
5. The use and conservation of natural resources must be governed by objective, science-based analysis of long-term consequences and public needs.
6. When science is inconclusive, the use of natural resources must be safeguarded by precautionary principles that minimize long-term risks.
7. Public resources must not be used in ways that favor any individuals or groups at the expense of the public, including future generations.
8. Economic prosperity depends directly on the health and diversity of our natural environment. Therefore development and business activities must be guided by valid environmental criteria.
9. Long-term economic and environmental objectives can only be achieved through a deliberative, sustainable approach accessible to the public.
10. Sustainability depends on mutually responsible roles for the economy, the environment, and government. All these are vital to our quality of life.
11. The public interest requires that we continually seek to improve the sustainability of human activities.
12. To exercise these core beliefs, the Center will continue analyzing and providing education on important regional issues, advocating public policies, and taking selective legal actions as needed.

## The Center's Agenda in 2014

- ✓ **Continue protection of coastal wildlife, water quality, tidal marshes and freshwater wetlands** – by reaching out to coastal communities, other non-profit groups, and public officials with education and assistance crafted to cultivate shared opportunities and improve safeguards. This includes analysis of coastal development activities, conditions, and trends.
- ✓ **Respond to sea level rise** by (1) promoting solutions with practical benefits for coastal citizens, including accelerated conversion to renewable energy, and (2) providing timely information to coastal communities to avoid risks from major storms and flooding.
- ✓ **Improve the transparency, impartiality, and accountability of government agencies** that are responsible for protecting coastal natural resources and quality of life, taking legal action as needed to strengthen regulations and public policy.

### Your support is essential.

Won't you pledge your commitment to a more sustainable future by making a **tax-deductible contribution** to support the Center's work? *Any amount is appreciated and, if you prefer, donations may be made in several installments.*

You may donate online with a credit card or mail us a check.

**Thank You!**



*Advocating responsible decisions that sustain the quality of life in coastal Georgia.*